GREEN DAY GREEN DAY

UK TOUR POSTER!

+ EVERY SHOW REVIEWED!

649 NEW GIGS LISTED!

KERRANG!

6 AMAZING POSTERS!

TWENTY ØNE PILØTS IN THEIR PANTS!

WORLD EXCLUSIVE!

ALL TIME LOW

WIN! TOUR TICKETS! SEE T&CS INSIDE!

THEY'RE BACK! AND THEY'VE COMPLETELY REINVENTED THEMSELVES!

EMO NITE

DANCING AND CRYING HAS NEVER BEEN SO MUCH FUN

THY ART IS MURDER

CJ McMAHON BARES HIS SOUL

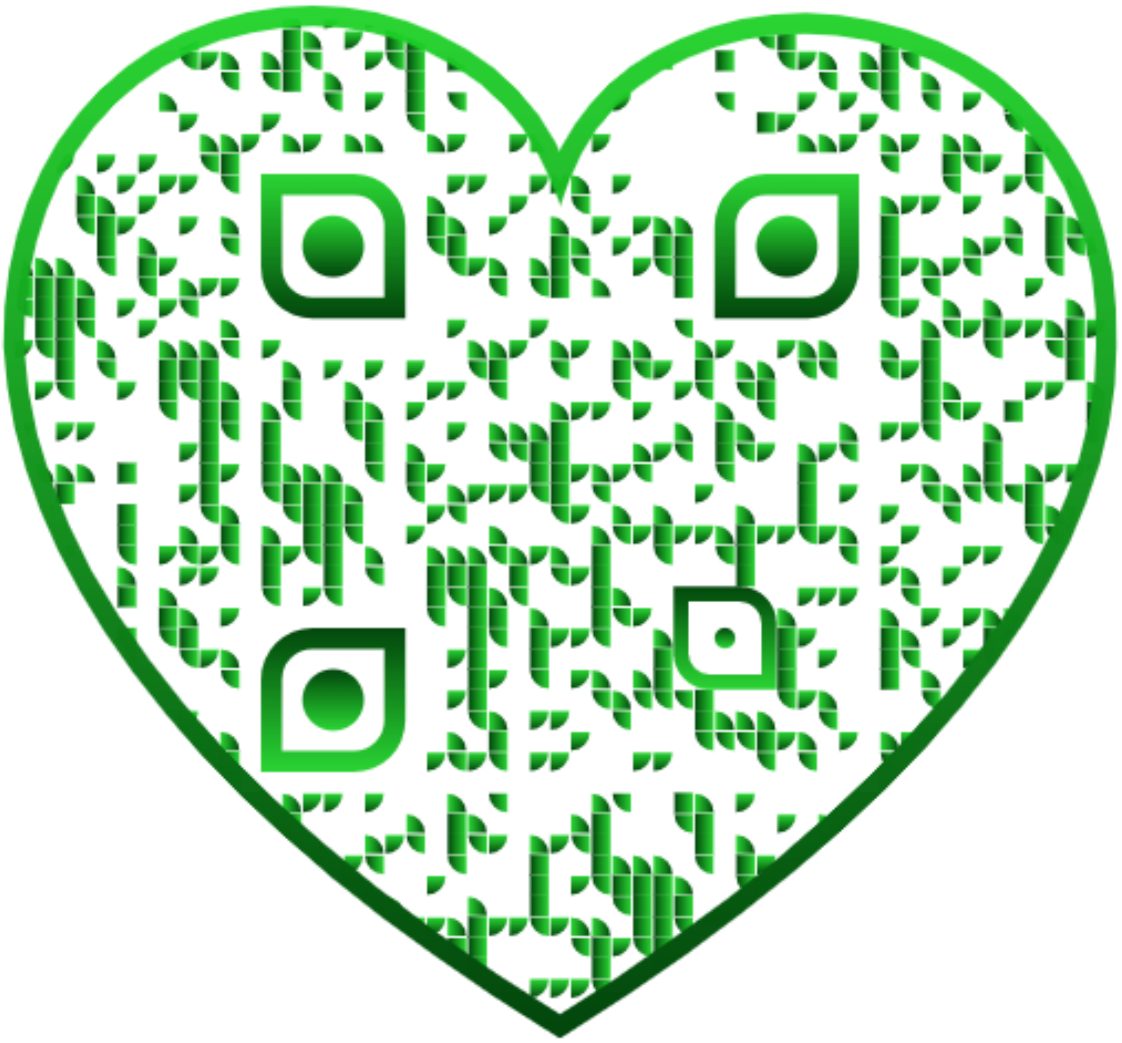
WATERPARKS MEET SUM 41

KERRANG! ISSUE NO 1659

FEB 25 2017 / £2.50 AUS: $7.50

9 770262 662179 08

WWW.KERRANG.COM



NEW FOUND GLORY

1997 20 2017

YEARS OF POP PUNK

NFG

UK TOUR

EXTRA DATES ADDED

20/09 CARDIFF TRAMSHED
STICKS & STONES / NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT

21/09 OXFORD O2 ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / SELF TITLED

22/09 NORWICH UEA
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

23/09 LONDON O2 FORUM
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

25/09 PORTSMOUTH PYRAMIDS
STICKS & STONES / NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT
TICKETS ON SALE 9.00AM FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY

27/09 GLASGOW O2 ABC
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

28/09 NEWCASTLE O2 ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / SELF TITLED

29/09 MANCHESTER ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

30/09 BIRMINGHAM O2 ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / SELF TITLED

02/10 LEEDS O2 ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

03/10 NOTTINGHAM ROCK CITY
STICKS & STONES / SELF TITLED

05/10 BRISTOL O2 ACADEMY
STICKS & STONES / CATALYST

06/10 LONDON O2 FORUM
STICKS & STONES / SELF TITLED

SOLD OUT LONDON ELECTRIC BALLROOM
CATALYST / NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT

SOLD OUT LONDON UNDERWORLD
NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY / COMING HOME

TICKETS: GIGSANDTOURS.COM / TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

AN SJM CONCERTS, TRIPLE G, PVC, DHP & UEA PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ITB

CONTENTS

ISSUE 1659 FEB 25, 2017

HELLO READERS, and welcome to this week's issue of Kerrang!. I tell you what, gang, it's very exciting to see our boys All Time Low back on the cover of the magazine. They're a band who've had their entire story told through the pages of Kerrang!, and we're very much looking forward to hosting their story during what seems set to be a fairly extraordinary period of reinvention for the Baltimore foursome. Welcome back, dudes! Elsewhere in this issue, we spend an evening at Emo Nite, the greatest club on the face of the planet (p36) and catch up with my namesake, CJ McMahon. It's great to hear he's on the mend (p24). Good stuff, right? Enjoy the issue, you guys!

James

NEWS

ON THE COVER: We head to the GRAMMYs to see **twenty one pilots** scoop an award in their pants, **Metallica** duet with Lady Gaga, and **Brendon Urie** cuddling a dog. Phew **(p4)**.

FEATURES

ON THE COVER: Pop-punk heroes **All Time Low** return more grown-up than ever in our world-exclusive cover feature **(p16)**, while CJ McMahon reveals his breaking point and consequent rebirth with **Thy Art Is Murder (p24)**. On top of that, **Waterparks**' Awsten Knight fanboys over Deryck Whibley of **Sum 41 (p40)**. Who can blame him, eh?

POSTERS

ON THE COVER: Wall-melting shots of **Sløtface**, **BABYMETAL**, **5 Seconds Of Summer**, **Deaf Havana** and more **(p29)**!

LIVES

ON THE COVER: **Green Day** are back! We repeat: GREEN DAY ARE BACK! We're so bloody happy about their return to UK shores that we hit every date of their incredible Revolution Radio tour **(p44)**. Elsewhere, **Galactic Empire** bring The Force to Manchester **(p48)**, and **Anthrax** take on Birmingham **(p49)**.

REVIEWS

Lovely alt.rock chaps **Mallory Knox** with lovely album three **(p50)**, while Tony Iommi goes inside **Black Sabbath**'s self-titled masterpiece **(p53)**.

GIGS

ON THE COVER: Beware! **With Confidence** are returning to the UK, and they might hurt your face **(p56)**.

EMO NITE p36

"Right, you're going to be the first face people see when they open this week's Kerrang! – do your best…"

COVER PHOTO: LINDSEY BYRNES CONTENTS PHOTOS: GRIZZLEE MARTIN, IAN COLLINS

PVRIS p59

Lynn Gunn: super-excited about the news at the back of the mag…

NEWS

THE BIG STORY
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVER

TAKE OFF YOUR PANTS AND JACKET

"ANYONE, FROM ANYWHERE, CAN DO ANYTHING..."
TYLER JOSEPH, TWENTY ONE PILOTS

THE 59TH GRAMMY AWARDS WERE A *HUGE* NIGHT FOR ROCK – AND WE WERE THERE TO WITNESS THE CHAOS! NO-ONE HAD A WILDER TIME THAN **TWENTY ONE PILOTS**...

TØP won their first-ever GRAMMY on February 12 – and collected the award in their underpants! The ceremony was held at Los Angeles' Staples Center, and saw the Ohio duo fend off competition from The Chainsmokers & Halsey, Rihanna & Drake, Sia & Sean Paul and Lukas Graham to win Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for Stressed Out. Frontman Tyler Joseph used their acceptance speech to explain their ballsy decision to walk onstage wearing half a tuxedo each.

"Before Josh [Dun] and I were able to make money playing music, I called him up and I said, 'Hey Josh, you want to come over to my rental house and watch the GRAMMYs?'" he explained. "As we were watching, we noticed that every single one of us was in our underwear. And, seriously, Josh turned to me – and we were no-one at the time – and he said, 'If we ever go to the GRAMMYs, if we ever win a GRAMMY, we should receive it just like this.'

"I want everyone who's watching at home to know, you could be next," he added. "Because anyone, from anywhere, can do anything."

David Bowie was posthumously given four awards for his swan song release Blackstar. He won Best Rock Performance, Best Rock Song for the album's title-track and Best Alternative Music Album, while the team behind the album – Tom Elmhirst, Kevin Killen, Tony Visconti and Joe LaPorta – were acknowledged with the Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical category.

Cage The Elephant won Best Rock Album for their 2015 release Tell Me I'm Pretty, beating blink-182 (California), Gojira (Magma), Panic! At The Disco (Death Of A Bachelor) and Weezer (Weezer).

"I want to thank these shoes because they're incredible," said Cage The Elephant frontman Matt Shultz. "I don't know what to say."

Megadeth have been nominated for 12 GRAMMYs during their career, and this year, they finally won Best Metal Performance for Dystopia. As the band walked to the stage to collect their award, the house band launched into Metallica's Master Of Puppets. Former Metallica guitarist Dave Mustaine took the gaff in his stride and played air guitar as he approached the podium. He later tweeted: "Ah, you

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG PHOTOS: GETTY

can't blame 'em for not being able to play Megadeth."

"Fantastic! Only took 12 tries to get this," said the frontman. "Last time we were here, we were talking to Kenny G, and he asked me how many times we were here, and he goes, 'Well, 11 isn't that bad.' And I said, 'How many times did it take you?' And he said, '21.' And I was like, 'Oh, my God. If it takes 21 times… I don't know if I'll live that long.'"

He continued: "I wanna thank Jesus Christ, I wanna thank my wife, my children, all the band's wives and kids, I wanna thank our management, our label, our agent, our attorney, our crew, all of you, especially the metal community. I think it's a little weird that we ended up being category 69, but somebody's got a sense of humour."

It wasn't the only metal-related faux pas of the evening. Presenter and Orange Is The New Black star Laverne Cox forgot to introduce Metallica as they took to the stage with Lady Gaga for a run-through of their Hardwired… To Self-Destruct song Moth Into Flame.

That paled into insignificance for the band – whose track Hardwired was up against Bowie, Highly Suspect, Radiohead and twenty one pilots for Best Rock Song – as their appearance was marred by technical difficulties. It became apparent that James Hetfield's microphone wasn't working and he was forced to share Gaga's mic while the problem was resolved.

After a performance which featured flames, dancers and a stage-dive by the popstar, Papa Het took his frustrations out on his mic stand and threw his guitar off the stage. A stagehand was later blamed for the malfunction. Hands up who wants to be *that* person right now? Anyone?

The GRAMMYs are always a chance for people to dress up. Not dress up like you're going for lunch at a fancy 'real napkins' restaurant, but *dress up*. While no-one turned up dressed as a baseball player – take a bow, Mastodon's Brent Hinds, for your 2015 effort – the rock and metal representatives cut a dash on the red carpet (see panel below).

Panic! At The Disco's Brendon Urie arrived in a sharp cream suit with black trim, and was later seen cuddling a Labrador puppy named Duke. While Panic!'s Death Of A Bachelor failed to win the Best Rock Album, Brendon tweeted: "Oh well. There's always next year." We think meeting Duke took the sting out of the loss, to be honest.

Meanwhile, Highly Suspect – nominated for Best Rock Song with My Name Is Human – took the opportunity to make a political statement during the evening, as frontman Johnny Stevens called for the impeachment of President Trump. His black jacket had 'IMPEACH' stencilled on the back and he and his bandmates made sure the gathered photographers saw it as they made their way into the ceremony. On Twitter, Trump's followers took exception to Johnny's statement. "Bunch of millennial crybabies", "How childish" and "I was going to buy your album. Now I'm not" were just some of the kinder reactions from Trump's followers. Dicks.

Closer to home, TØP are up for International Group at the 2017 BRIT Awards alongside Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, A Tribe Called Quest, Drake & Future and Kings Of Leon in London the very day this issue is out. Will they show the O2 Arena their hairy legs? Only time, and the small matter of mercy, will tell.

NOTORIOUSLY CATTY FASHION DESIGNER CARRIE TAILOR SPENT MOST OF HER GRAMMY NIGHT TUTTING AND ROLLING HER EYES AT THIS LOT ON THE RED CARPET…

JOHNNY STEVENS

"Why not throw a bottle of petrol on that fire with a simple dinner jacket with 'IMPEACH' sprayed on the back? Elegant with a hint of Joe Strummer's sartorial nous. I doubt Highly Suspect will be invited to the White House any time soon."

"FANTASTIC! ONLY TOOK 12 TRIES TO GET THIS..."

DAVE MUSTAINE, MEGADETH

JOY VILLA

"Shit! Did she lose a bet? This is probably one big publicity stunt. She may as well have covered herself in old dog turds for the same effect. Anyway, that's enough about James Corden. Ooooh, I am mean."

BRENDON URIE

"More like Panic! In Debenhams, darling. For a man who wears flamboyant clothes onstage, I was horrified by this... Even the people from E! looked at him as though he was a covered in hummus. Handsome hummus, though."

CEELO GREEN

"C-3PO's nan called. She wants her curtains back. Look, I'm joking. If someone wants to court publicity dressed as an angry Ferrero Rocher, that's their business and nobody else's."

GIRL CRUSH

"I've no idea who this woman is, but her Facebook page describes her as 'LA's newest pop tart'. While she looks *nothing* like the breakfast of champions, she's rocking that young-frazzled-mother-looking-for-her-kids-in-an-IKEA-ball-pool look which was the talk of London Fashion Week. You go, girl."

ISSUE 1659 FEB 25, 2017

K!ONFIDENTIAL

ROCK GOSSIP AND GIBBERISH

SCREAM FOR ME... MUMMY!

SOME PEOPLE CALLED THEIR BABY **IRON MAIDEN**. NO, REALLY. THEY ACTUALLY DID THAT

WE'LL BE honest, we can't quite work out whether this is cool or whether we should call the NSPCC. See, news reaches us that a baby in Bolivia has been given the name Iron Maiden Duran Ruiz. No, really. It says that on the birth certificate.

The baby was born on February 2 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the region's capital city, and we sort of think it's cool because we like heavy fucking metal. But we're also worried that some people have basically named their newborn after a medieval torture device. And then there's the question of how this will be received in the playground? Anyway, do you know of anyone named after their parents' favourite heavy metal band? Let us know at Feedback@kerrang.com. Basically, we won't rest until we're convinced that nobody has called their kid Morbid Angel. Please God, we hope that nobody has called their child Morbid Angel...

MEANWHILE, ON THE INTERNET...

At this juncture, Donald Trump and his whiny Twitter feed is a million miles more emo than any member of Fall Out Boy, right? YouTube comedy channel Super Deluxe certainly think so. Head over to Kerrang.com now to hear the human Wotsit's maximum moany moments set to a mopey beat that'd make Jimmy Eat World proud.

PANCAKE L – R: M. SHADOWS, BRENDON URIE, ASH COSTELLO

ER... DAD?

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

PANCAKE AT THE DISCO!

It's pancake day next week, and some of your favourite rockstars have been practicing their tossing skills. Not like that. Wash your brain out. But they've made a right mess! Can you tell who's who under these crêpes?

SPOTTED

Matt Tuck departing North Greenwich tube (we think he'd been to see A7X) ❱ *The Chicken Connoisseur (YouTube him) on the Northern line* ❱ Excellent Brit actor Paddy Considine bouncing around at Green Day ❱ *English football's first million-pound player, Trevor Francis, at Black Sabbath at the Genting Arena (aka: the gig that never stops producing the goods)* ❱ SEEN A ROCKSTAR DOING SOMETHING? TELL US AT FEEDBACK@KERRANG.COM

PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com

A LIVE NATION PRESENTATION

X JAPAN

SPECIAL PREVIEW OF THE FEATURE DOCUMENTARY FILM "WE ARE X" FOLLOWED BY A LIVE CONCERT EVENT

EXCLUSIVE 60 MIN CUT INCLUDING DELETED SCENES

SATURDAY MARCH 4, 2017

THE SSE ARENA, WEMBLEY

LIVENATION.CO.UK • TICKETMASTER.CO.UK • SSEARENA.CO.UK
AXS.COM • XJAPAN.COM

SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE MARCH 3, 2017

Available on iTunes

Available at amazon

THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART

WELL HELLO THERE, NEW ENTRIES FROM **SLAVES** AND **THE MENZINGERS**! WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR STAY ON THE ROCK CHART. LEAVE YOUR KEY CARDS ON THE DESK...

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	9	1	LOWER THAN ATLANTIS	Had Enough	EASY LIFE
2	3	2	BIFFY CLYRO	Flammable	14TH FLOOR
3	6	3	CREEPER	Hiding With Boys	ROADRUNNER
4	9	1	YOU ME AT SIX	Swear	SONY
5	12	2	GREEN DAY	Still Breathing	REPRISE
6	3	6	DEAF HAVANA	Fever	SO RECORDINGS
7	10	4	KORN	Take Me	ROADRUNNER
8	5	6	FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES	Wild Flowers	KOBALT
9	2	9	MALLORY KNOX	Better Off Without You	SONY
10	7	9	BFMV	Don't Need You	SPINEFARM
11	3	11	STARSET	Monster	SPINEFARM
12	2	6	WATERPARKS	Royal	MOON
13	6	10	MOOSE BLOOD	Cheek	HOPELESS
14	4	13	DANNY WORSNOP	Mexico	EARACHE
15	7	14	WHILE SHE SLEEPS	Hurricane	SELF-RELEASE
16	1	16	SLAVES	Hypnotised	VIRGIN EMI
17	2	17	VUKOVI	La Di Da	LAB RECORDS
18	1	18	THE MENZINGERS	Lookers	EPITAPH
19	10	1	BIFFY CLYRO	Re-arrange	14TH FLOOR
20	14	1	BMTH	Oh No	SONY

LAURIE VINCENT, SLAVES

IS HYPNOTISED ACTUALLY ABOUT BEING HYPNOTISED?

"It's about how we're all obsessed with screens, we're always watching TV or on our computers or phones, and I wrote the lyrics based on the idea that people aren't engaging with each other any more. I think we're all hypnotised, to an extent."

DOES IT BOTHER YOU WHEN YOU'RE BEING HYPNOTISED BY THIS YOURSELF?

"It does, yeah, because you want to practice what you preach – but we always end up being the guys staring at our phones!"

WAS THIS A SONG THAT CAME TOGETHER QUICKLY?

"Yeah, we did a few days writing at a residential studio, and it came out in a couple of hours. It was one of those things that when it started happening it just flowed really quickly, and that's such a good feeling. You get too excited when that happens – and then that initial buzz wears off when you have to wait a year to release it *(laughs)*!"

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR

GREG BARNETT, THE MENZINGERS

HEY, GREG! WHAT ARE THE MAIN THEMES BEHIND LOOKERS?

"It sums up a lot of emotions I had in my 20s. The idea of sitting in a diner is such a cliché, and it was almost eye-opening to realise, 'Wow, that's what we actually did as kids!'"

YOU REFERENCE TOM WAITS' JERSEY GIRL IN THE CHORUS – ARE YOU A BIG FAN?

"Yeah, I am a huge Tom Waits fan, as well as a big Bruce Springsteen fan and he stole [Jersey Girl] too. I don't think there's any better lyrical imagery of New Jersey than in that song."

WORDS: JAMES MACKINNON

SEE/HEAR THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART!

KERRANG! TV

KERRANG! RADIO

The Official Kerrang! Rock Chart is made up of airplay across Kerrang! Radio, Kerrang! TV and specialist rock stations. The show airs on K! Radio every Saturday at 10am with Loz Guest, and also on K! TV Thursdays at 4pm. Tune in and listen up!

DOWNLOAD

UK 2017

FRIDAY 9 JUNE

SYSTEM OF A DOWN

PROPHETS OF RAGE

FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH

MASTODON

SABATON

MOTIONLESS IN WHITE

NORTHLANE

SUM 41

Good Charlotte

BARONESS

SUICIDAL TENDENCIES

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

STATE CHAMPS

FOUR YEAR STRONG • ISSUES

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

ASTROID BOYS • M O S E S

EXODUS

THE CONTORTIONIST

LOST SOCIETY • VENOM PRISON

GOD DAMN • HOLDING ABSENCE

SHE MUST BURN

SATURDAY 10 JUNE

BIFFY CLYRO

A DAY TO REMEMBER

AFI

PIERCE THE VEIL

OF MICE & MEN

CREEPER

HACKTIVIST

Zippo ENCORE STAGE

ROB ZOMBIE

COHEED AND CAMBRIA

KVELERTAK

ALESTORM

THE AVALANCHE STAGE

SIMPLE PLAN

THE STORY SO FAR • EVERY TIME I DIE

CROWN THE EMPIRE • KNUCKLE PUCK

AS IT IS • THE ONE HUNDRED • TRASH BOAT

GREYWIND • NORMANDIE

THE DOGTOOTH STAGE

WEDNESDAY 13

THE LOUNGE KITTENS

RED SUN RISING • I THE MIGHTY • CASEY

THE LAFONTAINES • IDLES

JUNIOR • DEAD LABEL

SUNDAY 11 JUNE

AEROSMITH

ALTER BRIDGE

STEEL PANTHER

AIRBOURNE

IN FLAMES

THE CADILLAC THREE

FOZZY

SLAYER

OPETH

CLUTCH • MINISTRY • ANATHEMA

DEVILDRIVER • RED FANG

THE DEAD DAISIES

THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN

MOOSE BLOOD • BASEMENT

THE KING BLUES • TOUCHÉ AMORÉ

DINOSAUR PILE-UP • DEAD! • BLOOD YOUTH

GROVE STREET FAMILIES • WALLFLOWER

LIKE A STORM

AARON BUCHANAN & THE CULT CLASSICS

DEVILSKIN • FIZZY BLOOD • THE CHARM THE FURY

STONE BROKEN • BRUTAI

PLUS MANY MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED. GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

downloadfestival.com | 9-11 June 2017, Donington Park

DOWNLOADFEST @DOWNLOADFEST #DL2017 DOWNLOADFEST

KERRANG! PLANETROCK Carlsberg SOMERSBY SMIRNOFF Pepsi MAX zippo Firestone LIVE NATION ticketmaster BILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ISSUE 1659 FEB 25, 2017

FRESH BLOOD
ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS

BRUTUS

FOR FANS OF: REFUSED, SAVAGES, MOGWAI

WHO ARE BRUTUS AND WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

Please give a warm *welkom* to Brutus, a post-rock punk trio who carry on Belgium's tradition of fine bands like dEUS, Soulwax and Oathbreaker. Forming in Leuven, a city 16 miles east of Brussels, the band – Stefanie Mannaerts (drums and vocals), Stijn Vanhoegaerden (guitar) and Peter Mulders (bass) – cite influences as disparate as Slayer, Bruce Springsteen, Refused and The Weeknd. "Does that lead to conflict in the practice space? Yes, of course," says Stefanie of their tasty sonic soup. "We work to find a combination that works for the three of us – we're kind of obligated to do that because we're also really good friends."

A SINGING DRUMMER, YOU SAY?

Yep. Just like Mastodon's Brann Dailor, Phil Collins and even the late Karen Carpenter, Stefanie provides Brutus' soaring vocals while laying down blastbeats over Stijn's inventive guitar and Peter's low-end throb. "I was very nervous at our first show," she admits. "The microphone was in the way and I felt people's eyes burning on me. I'm lucky that I'm in a band with my best friends so I just looked at their funny faces and could focus on the music again."

> **"HAVING A SINGING DRUMMER DEFINITELY SHAPED OUR SONGS..."**

DOES HAVING A SINGING DRUMMER SHAPE A BAND'S SOUND?

Stefanie says that in the beginning, laying down those blastbeats and singing at the same time had its physical limitations. "It has definitely shaped our songs," says Stefanie. "In the beginning I'd feel like I could sing more parts but my body said, 'No.' Live, one of the challenges we face is that we have a drummer who is also the lead singer – so there's not much jumping around or crowd-surfing. Luckily for us, Peter jumps way higher than me and Stijn is a great guitar player."

SOUNDS PERFECT. ARE THEY RELEASING ANYTHING SOON?

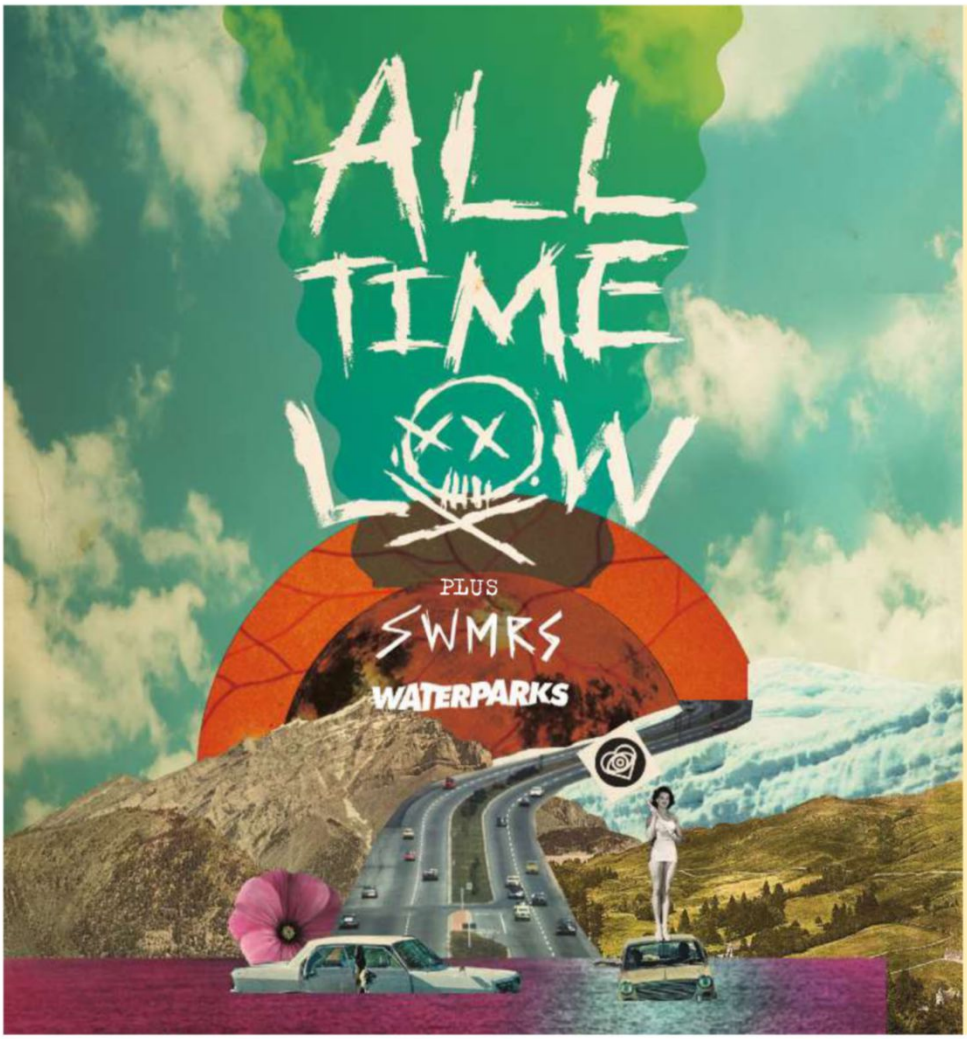
Hell yes. Their debut album is out this week. While the band released a string of seven-inches during the last few years, the pressure was on when they went to Vancouver to record Burst. "I can speak for the three of us and say it was a mind-blowing experience," says Stefanie. "The recording itself happened so naturally and fast, but it was a really difficult stage for us. We felt like we could not make any mistakes. We are three people with different opinions, so not every decision was easily made." It was worth the stress. Find out for yourselves on February 24.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT? Post-rock punk from Belgium.
CHECK OUT: The brilliant video for All Along.
HEAR: Their debut album, Burst, out this week.
MORE INFO: Wearebrutus.com
DON'T MISS: Brutus and more new bands on Alex Baker's Fresh Blood show on Wednesdays at 10pm on K! Radio.

(L – R:) Stijn Vanhoegaerden (guitar), Stefanie Mannaerts (drums/vocals), Peter Mulders (bass)

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG PHOTO: TOM MARTIN



MARCH

SOLD OUT London Eventim Apollo
SOLD OUT Cardiff University Great Hall
SOLD OUT Southampton O2 Guildhall
Tue 14 Cambridge Corn Exchange
Wed 15 Leeds O2 Academy
Thu 16 Birmingham O2 Academy
Sat 18 Liverpool Guild of Students
SOLD OUT Bristol O2 Academy
Thu 23 Manchester O2 Apollo
Fri 24 Sheffield O2 Academy
SOLD OUT Newcastle O2 Academy
Mon 27 Edinburgh Corn Exchange
Tue 28 Glasgow O2 Academy
SOLD OUT Norwich The Nick Rayns LCR, UEA
Fri 31 London O2 Academy Brixton

GIGSANDTOURS.COM
TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

ALLTIMELOW.COM

AN SJM CONCERTS PRESENTATION
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH X-RAY

THE UNDERWORLD

TWAUDIO

174 CAMDEN HIGH STREET, CAMDEN TOWN, LONDON NW1 · 020 7482 1932 · WWW.THEUNDERWORLDCAMDEN.CO.UK
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE WORLD'S END PUB (NEXT DOOR TO THE UNDERWORLD)
OR BY CC: STARGREEN 020 7734 8932 / WWW.STARGREEN.COM

THU 23 FEB
WORMROT
+ THE AFTERNOON GENTLEMEN, THE ATROCITY EXHIBIT & DYSTERIA
TICKETS £12.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

SAT 25 FEB
TNSRECORDS TOUR 2017
FEATURING WONK UNIT, FAINTEST IDEA
ROUGHNECK RIOT & REVENGE OF THE PSYCHOTRONIC MAN
TICKETS £12.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

WED 01 MAR
GHOUL + INSANITY ALERT & LUNATIC HOOKER
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

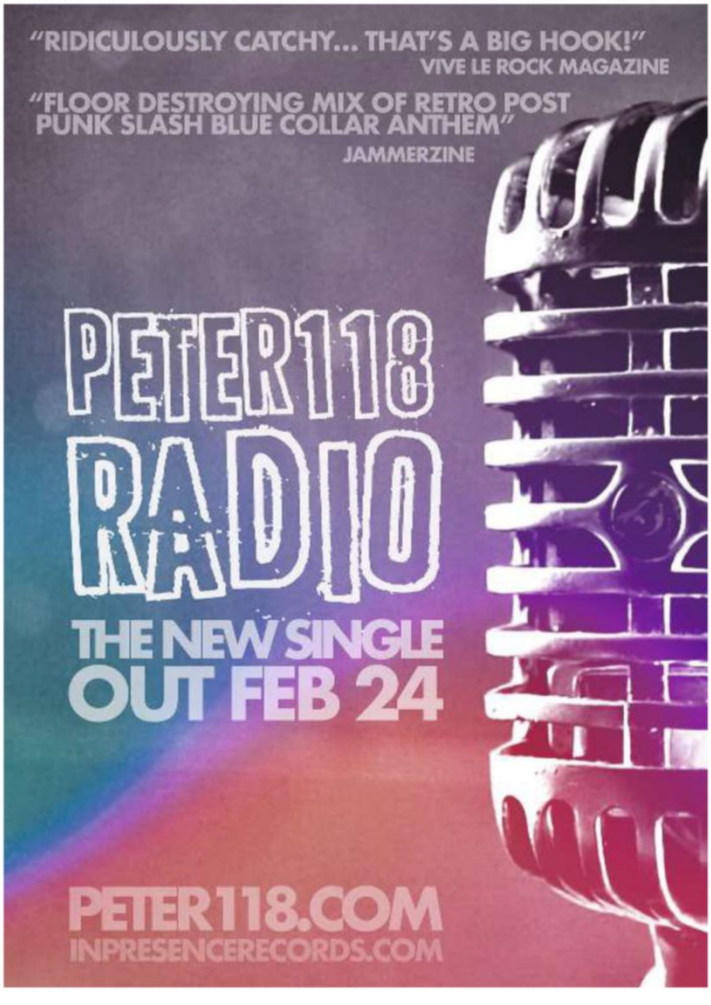
FRI 03 MAR
THE BROWNING
+ IT LIES WITHIN & BLESSING A CURSE
TICKETS £12.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00

SUN 19 MAR
JIZZY PEARL/LOVE/HATE
+ EMPERORS OF THE WASTELAND & KNOCK OUT KAINE
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

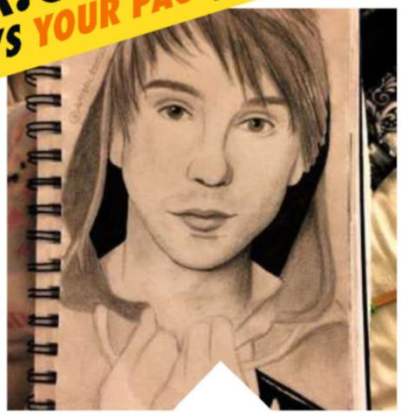
WED 22 MAR
DEVILSKIN & SUMO CYCO
+ EVA PLAYS DEAD
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 19:00

THU 23 MAR
BURNT OUT WRECK
TICKETS £12.50 ADV / DOORS 19:00

SUN 26 MAR
HUNDREDTH
+ LANDSCAPES, SILENT PLANET & HEALER
TICKETS £15.00 ADV / DOORS 18:00



K!OMMUNITY
IT'S YOUR PAGE, YOUR LIFE!



FUTURE ARTS

*"Drawing of Alex from All Time Low," says **@artisticlostsoul**. He kinda looks like he's just got out of the shower and is all wrapped up in a towel. Because even pop-punk megastars have got to stay snug, obvs.*

UNDERWEAR IN MY HEART

*Here's **@bethldraws**' interpretation of twenty one pilots' GRAMMY acceptance speech, because no-one has seen enough of Tyler and Josh's legs over the past week, clearly *makes mental note to hit the gym*.*

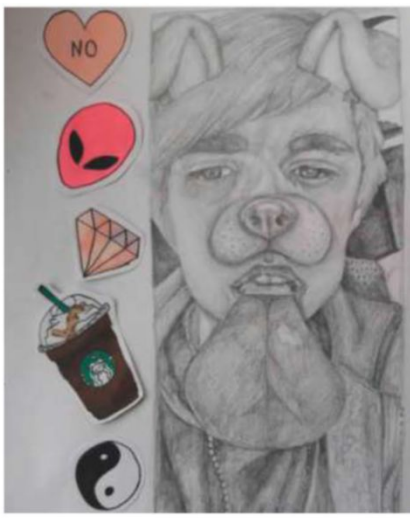
WINNER!

BRACE FOR INK-PACT

*"Having the plague brought me some productivity time," says **@suziesuziesuzieb**. "So I spent half my day drawing Jeremy McKinnon… Because last week was ace and this week sucks." Sorry to hear that you were ill, Suzie, but you're definitely the most productive ill person we've ever known. So, drop us a line at Feedback@kerrang.com, because you've won tickets, merch and a meet-and-greet with Suicide Silence – congrats!*

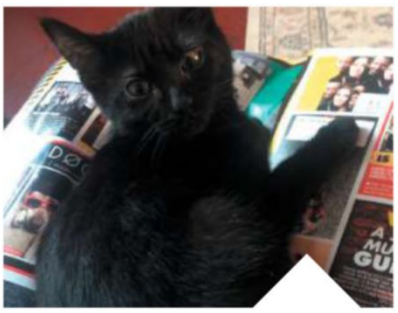
MODEL RESISTANCE

*"As part of my tech work at school, we were told to design and make judder toys that move around. Mine, of course, is inspired by SU-METAL," says **Jay Grzelak**. Loving your work, Jay! Now if you could crack on with a Fox God one for our office, that'd be swell…*



DAWG-STEN KNIGHT

*"This was fun – Awsten Knight is a basic white Tumblr girl," says **@evie_duck**. We would ask the Waterparks frontman how he feels about that particular label, but we're too worried about getting slobber over our face.*



THE FELINE EPISODE

*"My cat Alexandria loves Kerrang! – which is good since she's named after metalcore band Asking Alexandria," says **@StrangerJazz_**. Cute! Which frontman does she prefer, though? Danny Purrsnop or Denis Kitty? That doesn't really work, but we're sticking with it anyway.*

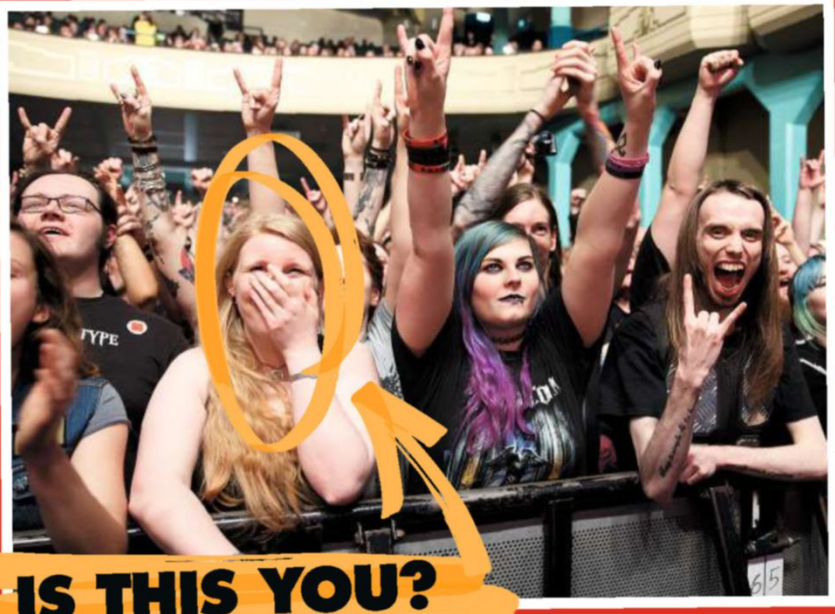
FACE IN THE CROWD

COLLIDE WITH THE SMILE

"Best moment of my life – please take me back!" says @thepurplevampire. We see you interrupted Mike Fuentes' pre-show drumming practice for this photo. With a technique like that, he needs a lot more work to be fair.

WALL-TERPARKS

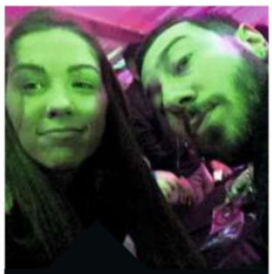
"Forever in love with my Waterparks wall, especially because it's a month 'til I see them on the All Time Low tour," smiles @TheTideStitch. This is off-the-wall cool! Actually, technically it's not, but y'know… puns.



IS THIS YOU?

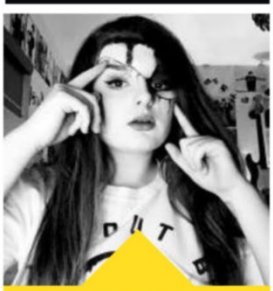
BAND: Sabaton
WHEN: 11.01.17
WHERE: O2 Academy Glasgow

■ Did you get a nasty whiff of one of Joakim Brodén's signature farts at Sabaton last month? We've been on the receiving end of those before. To make up for your smelly experience, send a recent pic of yourself and a snap of your ticket to Feedback@kerrang.com, because ***YOU'VE WON TWO TICKETS TO SEE THE ONE HUNDRED!***



SELFIE OF EVIL

"Nice shot of Zacky," says @ellen_winstanley3 of the A7X guitarist. Look at that pose! His favourite Avenged album is blatantly Sounding The Seventh Trum-pout. Lol.



MAKE YOU OUT

"Can you save my Heavydirtysoul?" asks @xjessxbagnallx. We can't unfortunately, but we can print you in Kerrang!. Sort of the same thing, no?

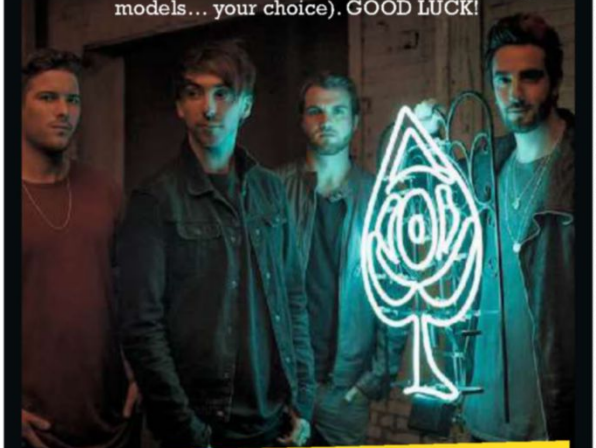
CHEESUS OF SUBURBIA

"Trying and failing to turn a pizza into Billie Joe Armstrong with @elliem0ss is the best way to spend my time," says @piercethelyric. Amazing effort, guys! We're probably going to start pitching some of these to big pizza chains, via Green Day song titles. Know Your Pepperoni, anyone? Hawaiian' A Ride? Meat Stink Breath? Actually, no, that's gross – ignore us. As you were.

NEXT WEEK

WIN! ALLTIMELOW TICKETS!

Wanna see this week's coverstars live*? Well, here's what we're looking for: 1) An image of any pop-punk band made out of tofu (we advise using soy sauce to create extra detail). 2) A selfie with Will Gould where one of you is impersonating a vampire. 3) Your favourite band as dinosaurs (could be a drawing, models… your choice). GOOD LUCK!



TAG YOUR STUFF WITH #KOMMUNITY

Show us via Twitter (@KerrangMagazine), Instagram (kerrangmagazine_) or feedback@kerrang.com!

*WE CAN OFFER TICKETS FOR ANY DATE EXCEPT LONDON'S EVENTIM APOLLO – SORRY!

EXCLUSIVE
THE
SECRET

'S OUT

ALL TIME LOW ARE BACK – AND A LOT HAS CHANGED, TOO. JENNYFER J. WALKER CATCHES UP WITH THE BAND AHEAD OF THEIR LIFE-CHANGING NEXT MOVE…

PHOTOS: LINDSEY BYRNES

In the winter of 2006, All Time Low performed a showcase gig for the record label of their dreams, Fueled By Ramen. With no intention of attending college, the then-high schoolers used a day off meant for visiting prospective campuses to make the 16-hour trip from snowy Baltimore to sunny Florida. Frontman Alex Gaskarth, guitarist Jack Barakat, bassist Zack Merrick and drummer Rian Dawson crammed themselves and their gear into Alex's black Nissan Xterra SUV, and with Rian driving, made their way down the 95 Interstate, listening to The Academy Is…'s Almost Here the whole way there.

The Dirty Laundry dance moves were still being fine-tuned…

"IT FELT LIKE NOW WAS THE TIME TO DO SOMETHING A BIT DIFFERENT..."

ALEX GASKARTH

Arriving in the Sunshine State, the teens piled out of the car and into a bar, where they put on a show while label founder John Janick watched on. It went well, to the young musicians' minds anyway, and the four friends left feeling a quiet sense of accomplishment. "At that point, any time we got to leave Baltimore and play a show it was the happiest day of our lives," remembers Rian. "Just because it felt like we were a real band and we got to tour."

But despite their high spirits, and even higher hopes, All Time Low did not get signed by Fueled By Ramen that day, news that Jack took very badly indeed.

"I reacted really poorly," he admits. "It was something I wanted more than anything."

The reason the teens were given was that the label had just signed Cute Is What We Aim For – who should really have been called Obscurity Is What We're Destined For – and didn't feel in a position to take on two bands. Instead, All Time Low were left to look elsewhere. You know the rest of the story.

Eleven years, six albums and countless adventures later, however, and the day that young Jack dreamed of has finally come. More than a decade after being shunned by their pop-punk label of choice, ATL are now finally part of the Fueled By Ramen family.

"Looking back I think it's better we didn't sign with Fueled By Ramen when we were 16," adds Jack. "Maybe it wouldn't have gone the same way. Our entire journey would have been completely different – we'd have made different records, maybe better ones, maybe worse ones. So I now feel very at peace with the fact our dream has finally come true. And it feels very right."

Los Angeles is today consumed by "crappy weather" as Kerrang! stops by to kick off All Time Low's 'welcome back' parade. Our presence may not go down well with one of Alex's dogs, who is disturbed from a rare opportunity to share a bed with the frontman while his wife, Lisa, is out of town, but our four-legged friend is about the only one not excited to be ushering in a new chapter in the story of ATL today.

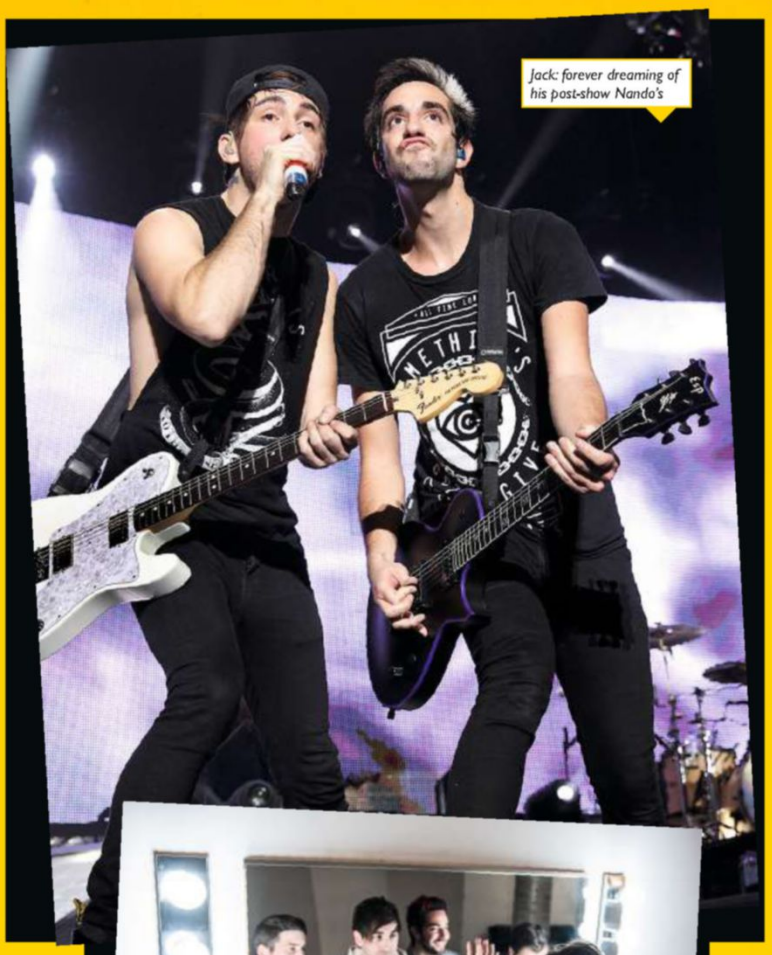
It's a new era that starts in earnest with a 16-date tour of the UK and Ireland next month, and, at some point this year, will see the band release their seventh record ("Sooner rather than later, hopefully, because we're very eager to get it out," enthuses Jack). You'll no doubt have new single Dirty Laundry, premiered last Friday, bouncing around your head. Slow and synthy, inspired by both Stranger Things and the deaths of icons such as David Bowie and Prince, it's unlike anything the band have done before.

"It felt like now was the right time to put something forward that was a little bit different for us," says Alex. "[We wanted to] keep things interesting and show our fans we're more than just 180bpms."

"We all feel like, we're almost 30, and we already have six records of pop-punk," explains Zack. "Instead of being in a pop-punk world, [the new songs are] a little more…" – he 'umms' and 'ahhs' a little, in search of the right words – "a little more for *everyone*… It's a little more grown-up."

The first person to hear the song other than its creator was Jack, whom Alex runs all new music past to gauge his opinion. 11am on a June morning in Baltimore, in his parents' kitchen, Jack opened an email from Alex on his phone, attached to which was the very first demo. Jack manoeuvred the in-ear monitors he uses onstage into his ears, and plugged the headphone jack into his phone; pressing play on the new track, he paced the kitchen's tiled floor as the music began.

"I just remember at the end being like, 'Oh fuck!' It only took one listen for me to realise how special it was. I called Alex immediately and I was like 'Fuuuuuck!' And he was like, 'Fuuuuuck!' It's got a cool vibe to it, but the lyrics are just so relatable. It's something a lot of people have gone through, myself included."



Jack: forever dreaming of his post-show Nando's

Alex took his time grasping the concept of a mirror

"It's about being okay with your demons and accepting people for their mistakes," explains the song's author. "We all have our flaws and our imperfections, and you have to get that sometimes that's what makes us who we are."

The last time Alex Gaskarth Googled his band, he came across a photo that made him wince. There, on the front page of Google Images, just one of 241,000 search results that come up when you type the words 'All', 'Time' and 'Low' was a photo of the quartet, 18 years old, and posing proudly in their 'tighty whities'; the same shot that once saw a Maryland high schooler receive a three-day suspension, after her principal caught the student with it and labelled it 'porn'.

Despite it being in vogue to do public things in your pants these days (a la twenty one pilots at the GRAMMYs), Alex wasn't happy.

"Damn it! That's the thing that people see when they Google me?" he laughed at the time. "Fuck! That's not me anymore! Not to say that I don't always do that – just not on camera…"

There's plenty more from ATL's 13-year history that makes the singer look back and say, "Jesus, what were we doing?", the result of a band who were not put together, and who never had people telling them what to do, or what *not* to do. This might explain why Alex and guitarist Jack Barakat dressed up as comedy pimps and drummer Rian Dawson made out with a ferret for 2007's Poppin' Champagne video, filmed when the quartet weren't even old enough to pop a bottle of Perrier-Jouët without breaking the law.

"If I could take that video back, I totally would," says Alex. "It's just so absurd and terrible!"

Ask every member of All Time Low how they've changed, and how the men stood before us today differ from those of even 18 months ago, and the answer you'll get is that they've grown up. Alex is now a married man, after putting a wedding suit over his white underpants and exchanging vows with his high school sweetheart Lisa Ruocco last April. Just two weeks ago Rian proposed to his long-term girlfriend, country star (and former Hey Monday singer) Cassadee Pope, a move he's been planning for the past six years but only recently found the confidence to see through. "It was just a matter of manning up and making it happen," he says, in answer to the question, 'What took you so long?'. "Since then, it's fulfilled me."

"We're all at that age now where it's another chapter in people's lives, our friends are getting married, some of our friends are having kids, some of our friends are passing away," says Alex. "Life hits you really hard [in the sense that it] adds another level of gravitas to things and you realise you're not just a kid anymore. And that was a big thing that we had to realise and deal with going into this album."

Work began on said album not long after Future Hearts came out, in April 2015. Actual recording, however, started around eight months ago, in LA. Despite Rian recently acquiring his own recording spot – Track Happy Studios, in Nashville – the bulk of the work was done at EastWest Studios on Sunset Boulevard, a place where history drips from the walls like water from a faulty faucet. Studio 3 was their base; at their disposal, a piano once played by Frank Sinatra.

Alex would be there permanently, with Jack, Zack and Rian popping in to record their parts and catch up on progress. With no strict deadline imposed by their new label, the work day was relaxed – even "pretty slow" at first. Everyone would rock up around midday, or 1pm, put down their coffee, pick up some instruments, and just start "playing around 'til something cool came out". Breaks would consist of a jaunt to their favourite Mexican restaurant up the road, for crunchy tortillas and cool margaritas.

Some days Alex would leave the studio ecstatic with his progress; some he'd be completely burned out, unable to listen to music for two days straight. Other days he'd worry if the fans would even want the music he was making.

"I think that's part of being the kind of egomaniacal

bastard that it takes to be the frontman," he laughs. "There's always a little creeping anxiety of like, 'Man, I hope people still care when we come back…'"

Do you think you became an egomaniac after becoming a frontman? Or you became a frontman because you're an egomaniac?

"That's a great question, isn't it?" he laughs. "I think it's a bit of both. I've always been the class clown and always been the kid that acted up to get people's attention and to show off, so I think there was always a part of me that was programmed to want people's attention and approval. Any time I get anxious [about if people still want to hear new music] I go on my Twitter, read my notifications, and find the nice ones."

Having friends pass away far too early in life is something that's addressed on the record, after the band lost someone they considered family – touring musician Jason Gaviati, fondly known as Gavi, who died after losing his battle with Burkitt lymphoma in November 2015.

"Gavi was Alex's roommate and Rian's best friend," explains Jack. "He was probably the closest person we've lost as a friend. [It wasn't] like an older uncle passing or a grandparent, [it was] someone our age, it could have been any of us, and that really affected us. It was the hardest thing we've gone through as a band."

And yet, for all the growing up they've done – and been forced to do – All Time Low still don't *feel* very grown up. "I'm still a man-child," laughs Alex. "I just have a wife that puts up with me."

"There's something innately childish about being able to play music for a living," adds Rian. "By nature it's a childish thing to be able to do, even though we're almost 30. You'll still hear the same stupid jokes. We could be 80 and that'll never change."

Jack is All Time Low's most conventional 'rockstar'. He'd rather spend his earnings today than invest them in his future. On the last U.S. tour, the band had an off-day, which he spent floating on a lake near Nevada with two crew members. Upon looking at his phone and realising the trio were only an hour and a half from Las Vegas, he called a private car service, rented a "really crazy" room in the City of Sin and drove there immediately. Jack picked up the bill for everything.

"I've been single for so long that I spend all my money on my friends and family, and myself, obviously," he says. "It all goes to the Jack Barakat Friends And Family Party Fund (*laughs*)! That's the whole point of living, right? My grandkids will probably be pissed, but at least we'll all have a great time."

Away from the band, Jack's involved with The Rockwell – a rock bar in Baltimore, Maryland which he helped set up, but now runs itself. More about living in the moment than a house he needs to pay a mortgage on, Jack rents an apartment in LA.

Alex, meanwhile, owns two houses – one near to where he grew up in Baltimore county, and another in LA where he lives with friends when he's working on the West Coast. And when he's not working on All Time Low, he's working with any decent band who needs a co-writer (everyone from 5 Seconds Of Summer to ONE OK ROCK).

Rian bought a house in Nashville, and last year opened his studio where he produces, engineers and mixes music for upcoming artists. He's already done

"I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT AT THIS POINT, OUR BAND CAN DO ANYTHING..."

JACK BARAKAT

SOMEWEAR IN T-SHIRT LAND...

ALL JOKES ASIDE, ATL'S RECENT CHARITY T-SHIRT CAMPAIGN IS VERY IMPORTANT...

WHEN DID YOU DECIDE TO DO A SHIRT TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE ACLU?

ALEX: "We came up with the idea the same day the States passed the ridiculous travel ban. I spoke to the guys and I was like, 'I think we should do something to help this cause, because whatever's going on is absurd.' At the time I was doing a ton of research and had people that know a lot more than me about the political climate advise me the ACLU [American Civil Liberties Union] was the place to help out."

AND WHO DESIGNED IT?

"My good friend Andrew Cook has a company called EZCO and they do really cool design work – I reached out to him because he'd also been an advocate for helping the ACLU, so it made sense. That was over a weekend, so it took a couple days to get it going, but it's been amazing. There's been a really cool response and an amazing outpouring of people who wanted to get involved. There were plenty of people that wanted the shirt and wanted to donate, but there were also a ton of people that were like, 'I don't have enough to donate for the shirt and for shipping, but I just donated this amount directly.' A *ton* of people got really behind it and motivated, which was the whole point. We raised over $10,000 and the band are gonna match the donation. It's just really cool that it's *that* easy to raise a significant amount of money for things that matter, and I hope that's what people take away from it."

WHAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU'D DO IF YOU BECAME PRESIDENT TOMORROW?

"Oh my God, I'm not sure I would be ready for that responsibility (*laughs*)! I would start by giving a very promoted and wide-spread speech saying that I approve of all people from all walks of life, and that the country needs to be about acceptance and not the other way around."

FOR MORE ON ACLU, SEE ACLU.ORG

two full-length albums, a few EPs and some singles, for groups such as Atlanta pop-rockers The Everyday Anthem and Orlando pop-punks The Last Sleepless City. Zack also owns properties – one where he lives in picturesque Hawaii, a five-minute drive from the beach, and another that he rents out. "Hopefully our band lasts forever," says the bassist, "but you also have to have other hobbies, 'cause too much of a good thing is a bad thing. I'm just trying to set myself up so when I'm older and I have kids that I can have an income through those properties."

He mostly lives a chilled-existence, going on daily hikes and frequenting the local karaoke bar with friends, but struggles daily with panic attack disorder.

"It's a big struggle every day of my life that I have to fight through," he explains. "I just over-analyse and that's what sets off all my triggers. That's why exercise is so great for me, because it helps fix that chemical imbalance."

Often spread out across four states, the band don't see each other that much when they're home, although, says Alex, it's "not to the extent where we're not seeing each other at all". There's always a photo shoot (like one illustrating these pages) or something else to reunite the foursome, and when they do get back together, they're so close, it's like they were never apart in the first place.

Alex Gaskarth is playing the biggest show of his *career*, headlining Reading & Leeds festival. Except, the thing is, he's doing it asleep, snoozing away under the covers. He walks out onstage, 60,000 people staring back at him, and Rian demands Alex play a song he does not know.

"It didn't go well for me," laughs Alex recalling the anxiety dream. "I woke up and I was really mad at Rian in real life!"

"I've had very similar dreams about Alex," adds Rian. "We're the ones who are always kinda arguing, but we're also best friends – I think that's the way it should be. Luckily, my nightmares have never been at Reading & Leeds doing that, though!"

Reading, however, isn't a destination on the quartet's upcoming month-long tour, which kicks off at London's Eventim Apollo on March 10, and culminates in a show at London's O2 Academy Brixton on March 31 – a venue everyone's thrilled to go back to, after a two-night stint there three years ago.

"My friend Alice from Gymbox made me do the 'burpee challenge' before I went onstage," remembers Zack of the night. "That's like 10 burpees on the

Jack was forced to stand on his own and think about the smell he just made

A LOVE LIKE TOUR!

QUICK-FIRE REVELATIONS FROM A LIFE ON THE ROAD

ZACK MERRICK
(BASS)

WHAT'S THE MOST TIMES YOU'VE THROWN UP IN ONE NIGHT?
"A hundred – 'cause I had food poisoning!"

FAVOURITE SHOP TO VISIT IN THE UK?
"I love visiting All Saints. You guys have the best fashion sense."

SILLIEST THING ON YOUR RIDER?
"A bowl of M&M's surrounded by action figures."

FAVOURITE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION IN THE TOUR BUS LOUNGE?
"Me and Alex talk about comics and the new movies coming with DC and Marvel."

WEIRDEST THING YOU PACK IN YOUR SUITCASE?
"I guess packing steel gymnastics rings is kinda strange to most people!"

WORST THING ABOUT BEING ON A TOUR BUS?
"When it gets too cold or too hot in the night. You either wake up frozen, or you're just sweating and gross."

RIAN DAWSON
(DRUMS)

THING YOU MISS MOST FROM TOUR WHEN YOU'RE HOME?
"Our tour manager. He gets us food and does whatever we want."

SOMETHING YOU'VE LOST ON THE ROAD THAT UPSET YOU?
"My in-ears. They're custom moulded so not easily replaceable."

SOMETHING YOU PUT ON THE RIDER BUT NEVER GOT?
"New bandmates?!"

BEST PERSON MET THROUGH TOURING
"My fiancée! I met her when we were on tour with Fall Out Boy."

ATL MEMBER WITH THE MOST ANNOYING HABIT?
"Jack sniffles in the morning. Alex is always late and proud of it. Zack works out a lot and sweats a lot."

WORST TOUR PRANK PULLED ON YOU?
"Yellowcard played some porn through our in-ears, so all we could hear was man on man."

JACK BARAKAT
(GUITAR)

BEST TOUR PRANK?
"Replacing water bottles with vodka. It was done to us, and we've carried it on."

WHICH MEMBER OF ATL SNORES THE LOUDEST?
"Zack is out of control. It's like sleeping next to a *beast*."

UK ACCENT YOU FIND THE HARDEST TO UNDERSTAND?
"Newcastle. It's pretty tough for me. Gaskarth's good at it 'cause he's one of you guys."

WORST THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU ONSTAGE?
"I needed to do a number two, and had to run offstage in the middle of Jasey Rae."

BANDMATE WITH THE MOST ANNOYING HABIT?
"I clean the bus, like, three times a day and Zack will leave stuff out a second after."

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A RUN IN WITH THE POLICE ON TOUR?
"We got in trouble on the Fall Out Boy tour for setting off fireworks once."

ALEX GASKARTH
(VOCALS/GUITAR)

STRANGEST THING YOU'VE EATEN WHILE ON TOUR?
"Durian fruit. It smells like hot trash and tastes like gasoline and hot trash."

BEST THING ABOUT BEING ON AN AEROPLANE?
"Getting to switch off. I really appreciate just being able to think."

ATL MEMBER YOU'D LEAST LIKE TO USE THE SHOWER AFTER?
"Jack's pretty hairy, so I don't know if he clogs drains a lot!"

LEAST FAVOURITE THING ABOUT TOUR?
"Ferry crossings, because you have to get off the bus at 3am."

ATL MEMBER YOU CAN'T WAIT TO TAKE A BREAK FROM ONCE TOUR'S OVER?
"Definitely Jack! He's a loud guy, and sometimes you gotta take a little break from Jacky Boy."

FIRST THING YOU DO WHEN AT A VENUE?
"Brush my teeth and explore the area."

minute, every minute, so I had to do like a hundred right before I went onstage. I got up there and I was already sweating (*laughs*)!"

While London's usually a given on a UK run, this time around, they'll be visiting places they've not been to in years. There's Cambridge, which they last played in 2012, and Norwich, where they visited in 2010, in the days where they'd "fit eight guys into the tiniest van" and bed down in a Travelodge.

"It's been a while since we played rooms where it's a little more intimate," says Alex, whose last London show saw him take on the O2 Arena (in February last year). "The arenas are incredible, but you're putting on a big picture show for the whole room, whereas this time you can see everybody's faces and you can reach out and touch people."

"Our age doesn't weigh on us," adds Rian. "We're not tired of touring and I don't think growing up is gonna affect us that much ever on the road. We're all itching to get back out there!"

Alex especially, who's been doing his homework for the shows, watching live videos of the band playing. "Just to see if we're any good," he jokes.

Well, are you?

"Um, we're *okay* (*laughs*)!"

"THERE WAS ALWAYS A PART OF ME PROGRAMMED TO WANT APPROVAL"

ALEX GASKARTH

When he's not watching All Time Low videos to get amped for tour, the frontman is sticking Foo Fighters' Live At Wembley Stadium in the DVD player. "There's nothing more inspiring than that show," he'll say. "That's always the goal right there, like, 'I want that!'"

So… could All Time Low play stadiums and be as big as the Foos or Green Day?

"I mean, shit…" offers Jack. "I can easily imagine it and picture it, but I don't know how attainable that goal is. But I'd like to think that the sky's the limit. I'd like to think that at this point our band can do anything. And that's one of the things this record touches on and accomplishes."

"The thing that drives us and keeps us going is that there's always something else to achieve and always something else to do," adds Alex.

"Yeah, when we played Wembley Arena," begins Rian, "you look across the street and say, 'Huh… wonder if we could ever do Wembley *Stadium*?' You play third from the top at Reading & Leeds and your thought is, 'I really think we could be headlining this one day…'"

"It's something that I feel is not completely out of the realm of possibility," muses Jack. "We've watched ourselves go from the small tents at the festivals, to headlining the tents, to playing early on the mainstage, to being, like, top billing, and it's definitely a reachable goal, and it's right in front of us."

He pauses.

"We've just gotta reach out and grab it."

ALL TIME LOW TOUR THE UK NEXT MONTH – SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFO

WORLD EXCLUSIVE

"Onstage, I'm INVINCIBLE... Off it, I had a total emotional BREAKDOWN..."

COCAINE ADDICTION. FINANCIAL INSTABILITY. A CYCLE OF SELF-INFLICTED TORMENT. BY DECEMBER 2015, LIFE IN **THY ART IS MURDER** HAD PUSHED **CJ McMAHON** TO BREAKING POINT. HAVING SENSATIONALLY REJOINED THE BAND THIS JANUARY, IN THIS WORLD-EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW THE FRONTMAN RE-TRACES THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY THAT'S LED TO HIS REBIRTH...

WORDS: SAM LAW **PHOTOS:** ANDREW LIPVOSKY, JAY WENNINGTON

The heat. The chaos. The adulation. Unleashing Thy Art Is Murder's ferocious brand of deathcore to packed spaces is what CJ McMahon lives for. One suffocating night in summer 2015, however, it became clear the frontman couldn't go on.

A controversy-plagued Rockstar Energy Mayhem Festival – one on which CJ himself castigated dwindling attendances – found the band isolated in middle-America, some 10,000 miles from home. A sold-out, off-night headline show should've provided respite. Instead, it cleared the way for CJ to hit rock bottom.

"It was in Nashville, I think," he winces, re-opening the wound for the first time. "Two hundred and forty people, sold out, in this little room in the middle of summer. The sweat seemed to be raining off the ceiling. It was a great show; as always, we gave it everything. But I just came off and had a total emotional breakdown.

"I fell on this dirty concrete floor at the side. I was crying so hard, snot and tears flowing. [It was like] I pissed myself. I was curled up on the floor in front of the band, feeling so embarrassed. I felt like I'd completely lost control of myself. It was a culmination of personal issues; of drug abuse; of being away from home."

A 30-something hardcore lifer, who'd only ever known the life of scraping by, CJ was beginning to crave stability, family, *something* more than transient existence. "I was pissed-off with the lifestyle," he sighs, "with being away from home, with being away from my family. I was pissed-off at the money we were making."

CJ wouldn't leave the band until December that year, but the cogs were in motion.

Eighteen months down the line, CJ finds himself at the other end of an arc. Humid Nashville has been swapped for wintry New Jersey, but there's a sense of full-circle completion as we speak on his Stateside return. "It's good to be back with my boys," he smiles, regarding the whirlwind few weeks that've whisked him from an onstage reunion with his bandmates at Australia's Unify Gathering back into recording on the other side of the world. "It's like nothing has changed – except me.

"I've never had any trouble with being in a band," he explains. "Getting onstage, be it for half an hour or an hour and a half every day, was always something I looked forward to. But only being excited for that one moment leaves you sitting on a bus, playing games, the rest of the time. I love FIFA. But there's only so much

CJ makes his surprise return at Unify Gathering, January 2017

you can play, day-on-day, week-on-week, month-on-month, year-on-year."

Echoing a depressing modern trend, financial pressures put the first cracks in CJ's foundation: the "$16 – 18k" band members were clearing each year nothing like what's needed to get married and start a family. "It was never the case that I felt that *I* wasn't getting paid enough," he clarifies. "It was that *all* musicians at a certain level aren't. Where we live, in Sydney and in Brisbane, has become the most expensive place in the world to live. In America, we mightn't have a great life, but we'd be able to pay our bills. I'm helping pay a mortgage that's $750 a *week*.

"We've all sold our cars to be in the band," he stresses. "There have also been a lot of people in the industry I'd like to see in front of a firing squad; promoters and bookers [making more than we would]. In the early days, it'd be so frustrating, seeing ourselves – the main draw – second out of four or five bands, knowing what the headliner was being paid. We'd have to ask how we're getting 250 bucks a show. That would piss me off."

Playing "pissed-off" was a recipe for self-destruction; the desire to always push further taking its toll. "I developed two bulging discs and two pinched nerves from all the headbanging, windmilling and diving headfirst into crowds of thousands," CJ reveals. "That contributed to me getting migraines every day." In a vicious cycle, those fuelled anger issues that would disrupt the delicate tour bus ecosystem. "My temperament could change at the drop of a hat," he admits. "I [became] the problem. On the rare occasions where we in the band would argue, I'd be holding on to something else, getting aggressive and making everyone feel weird."

Life became an on-rails, out-of-control ride from which CJ sought narcotic escape. What started as a crutch became a crushing burden. "I developed a massive problem," he admits, frankly. "Everyone knows me for smoking a lot of weed. I'd only dabbled in MDMA and cocaine. But I kinda got over weed and, over the past three years, coke [took over].

"Playing to a packed house, you come offstage with this huge adrenaline high – everyone loving us, loving *me* – then you realise you can't do that again for another 24 hours. It got to the point where I'd walk offstage and onto our bus where I'd already have the back of my laptop lined-out, *thick*. That escalated quickly – from sharing a gram with friends once every week or two to doing one or two eight-balls myself in a matter of hours. I found myself selling coke on tour to other bands, to other bands' crew, just so I could fund my addiction."

It was a mask for boredom; for homesickness; for knowing that bills were going unpaid. "My friends and I were never aggressive on coke, never angry," CJ reflects. "It became a medication for my bipolar and anger. The problem I had wasn't with the coke. It was driving around in the middle of the night, going to the shittiest areas in major cities around the world at stupid times of the morning, trying to find guys who could get me drugs. It was that my tolerance [became] so high I could feel my body tiptoeing on that line between being alive and ODing."

Fatefully, cocaine became the immediate catalyst for CJ's departure. Breaking point, fittingly, came at the end of recording for The Depression Sessions split with Fit For An Autopsy and The Acacia Strain. "I got super-excited," CJ remembers. "I did a *lot* of blow and ended up not sleeping for a day and a half."

With home on the horizon (a mere New Jersey to Phoenix to LA to Sydney connection away) the return journey seemed suddenly untenable. "I had six or seven hours to think on that flight to LA. I thought, 'I'm gonna be a 45-year-old man just fucking the world, doing blow until I die, going home to my family with nothing to offer, probably not even children because I'll send myself infertile.' By the time the plane touched tarmac at LAX, I was just like, 'Fuck this.' As soon as I had signal I started the email. I feel shit that I had to make [the band] suffer. But I don't regret the decision.

"To be honest, it was the easiest thing I've ever had to

"I COULD FEEL MY BODY TIPTOEING BETWEEN BEING ALIVE AND OVERDOSING"

CJ McMAHON

do. I was so angry I just didn't care at all. My [fiancée] was fighting me to make me stay *in* the band, saying that I had three months off, that she would help me to clean up and sort myself out. I just said, 'No – I'm coming home and I don't want to go out again ever.'"

From there, the hard work began. Not just in straightening out ("I went to rehab when I was 18 for some bad shit. I probably should've gone to jail. So I knew the process to clean myself up. I knew the steps I had to take. I knew the people I had to talk to."), but in getting involved with his father-in-law's "extremely technical, physically demanding" stonemasonry business. Rigorous 5am starts and 7pm finishes banished the routinelessness of the road. The ability to self-educate and address medical issues brought reinforcement. Finally, being able to save for the wedding late last year narrowed CJ's focus "like cheese in front of a rat".

"That became my biggest break from music in 18 years," CJ reflects, mulling the inevitability of his return. Sitting down with guitarist Sean Delander and friends in Sydney as Thy Art passed through mid-2016, a seed was planted. "Sean asked, 'Do you miss it?' And I said, 'Not really, but I'm starting to now.' His response? 'Well, you could always just come back.' I thought, 'As if it's that easy!' But then I couldn't stop thinking about it, talking about it." Honesty, CJ decided, could be the best policy. "I left a full-blown, broke drug addict," he laughs. "I'm returning just broke!"

In addition to healing, "real life" had reminded CJ of his lost love for life on the road. "Everyone is out there working on the grind," he reflects, "but at the end of every paycheque – when they've paid for their food and their family – they've got nothing else in their lives. Every time I'd come home from tour, my friends with good jobs and good money would only want to know about life on tour. I'd be like, 'Yeah, but I'm broke!' They'd say, 'Fuck money – we've got money but we can't do anything with it!' For most people, [our life] is paradise."

Reassured by his father-in-law, and by an initially-reluctant wife "that I actually *had* to go back", the reconnection gained momentum. Time was required: a few months to test his readiness. But with a band who'd been reliant – more in hope than expectation – on friends (like Molotov Solution's Nick Arthur) filling in, the reunion made forehead-slapping sense.

January 14, 2017. Tarwin Meadows' third-annual Unify Gathering became D-Day. "I was so nervous, just hiding behind this huge pole almost crying, almost throwing up," CJ recalls. "But when I walked out I could feel the energy coming back. A few words into the first song I felt the power coming back from the ground up. When I walk onstage, I'm invincible. I could take on an army."

Announcing the return with a promise to make TAIM "the greatest, strongest, most powerful force in metal", it's safe to say the confidence is back, too, then? "I've always been an overly confident person," he reasons. "I played professional soccer as a youth. We have to be capable of being the biggest band in the world. There are a lot of bands out there who are getting old now. I don't think many bands have the passion and capability to fill those guys' shoes like we do. I'm not stepping on anybody's toes. I'm not going to climb the rockstar ladder, pulling down people in front of me. I want to jump over!"

Refreshed. Revitalised. Reinvested. CJ McMahon, to use his words, is "a new man". Touring schedules will be moderated, home life no longer overwhelmed. Financial stress will be slackened – by Thy Art's growing stature and CJ's off-tour graft. Hitting rock bottom has highlighted what it's worth to keep the aforementioned "fantasy" a reality.

So, the year out was just a speedbump, falling fast into the rearview? "We're like a vehicle speeding down the road," CJ says, expanding the metaphor. "I jumped out, but the car kept going. The vehicle didn't change. Maybe the driver wasn't driving as fast or as cool as me. But it didn't veer off the path. Now I've jumped back in, so we're just gonna keep rolling."

Best not get in their way…

FOR INFORMATION ON AND HELP WITH ADDICTION, SEE TALKTOFRANK.COM

PLOTTING MURDER

GETTING BACK TO THE WRITING AND RECORDING FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HIS DEPARTURE, **CJ** AND GUITARIST **ANDY 'MARSHY' MARSH** GIVE US AN UPDATE FROM THE STUDIO FRONTLINE…

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE BACK IN THE STUDIO TOGETHER?
CJ: "It feels awesome. It feels like we could become as big as Slipknot or Slayer, and we wouldn't go to a different studio or producer. We've found what works for us, and we're sticking with Will Putney at Graphic Nature Audio in New Jersey. I'm not some great wordsmith. But that's why me, Marshy and our producer Will work so well together. Marshy is the intellect. I come up with simplified phrases for the hooks. And Will helps tie it all together."
ANDY: "Sean [Delander, guitar] started writing the record in December. The music seemed to come out pretty quick, and within a couple of weeks we had about 25 songs. Internally, we imagine CJ's voice on our music. There's an emotional attachment between us as writers and him as a performer – as if Sean and I are the directors of this movie called Thy Art Is Murder and he's the actor we designed the lead role around."

HAS THE JOURNEY YOU'VE BEEN ON SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED THE MUSIC?
ANDY: "Not a great deal in terms of the music! I think there could be a fucking nuclear [war] and the music would still be as grim as we can make it. Sean and I don't really succumb to outside influences – it's more that whatever happens to us in the two years manifests itself [subliminally]."

HOW IS THE RECORD SOUNDING?
CJ: "It sounds as aggressive as ever. There are a few different elements. Every record we have done has had a different feel. This seems more intelligently depressed, as a whole. We still have the hooky deathcore stuff. We have more traditional death metal elements. But then we also have this cool super-depressive, dark atmospheric stuff, too. It's a mixed bag."

Thy Art Is Sweltering While Wearing A Jacket And Hoodie In This Heat

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THAT LYRICAL CONTENT?
ANDY: "We say that it's our responsibility to provide our social commentary – or 'the news' as we see it. In America, where I live, the news is so far right, or far left, that you need to take a step back. A lot of people are comparing it to Nazi Germany. And it seems that each news site is providing very biased coverage on the state of the world. But so far it's just covering things that are affecting everybody. The environment; misinformation; propaganda. The election; immigration; the incorporation of religion into political policy. There's a feeling of being the last men left on Earth – whether that's literal, or being the last people able to see things as they are."

Slam Dunk

— 20 FESTIVAL 17 —

ENTER SHIKARI

A 'TAKE TO THE SKIES' 10 YEAR CELEBRATION

don broco

Bowling for Soup

NECKDEEP

Less Than Jake

Reel Big Fish

DEAF HAVANA

BEARTOOTH

TONIGHT ALIVE

WE ARE THE OCEAN

Against Me!

THE BRONX

GOLDFINGER

MAD CADDIES

THE MOVIELIFE

FRANK IERO AND THE PATIENCE

zebrahead

WE the Kings

THE ATARIS

FENIX*TX

THE MAINE

CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR

MEMPHIS MAY FIRE

Madina Lake

SET IT OFF

CITIZEN

Turnover

CRIME IN STEREO

Seaway

TROPHY EYES

BOSTON MANOR

WSTR

LIKE PACIFIC

SORORITY NOISE.

STRAY FROM THE PATH

I PREVAIL

ICE NINE KILLS

OCEANS ATE ALASKA

TOO CLOSE TO TOUCH

&

MC LARS

PLUS MANY MORE ARTISTS ACROSS 8 STAGES TO BE ANNOUNCED

MIDLANDS

SAT 27TH MAY
BIRMINGHAM - THE NEC

GENTING ARENA,
NEC HALL 1
+ OUTDOOR STAGES

NORTH

SUN 28TH MAY
LEEDS - CITY CENTRE

MILLENNIUM SQUARE,
FIRST DIRECT ARENA + O2 ACADEMY
LEEDS BECKETT UNI + OUTDOOR STAGES

SOUTH

BANK HOLIDAY MON 29TH MAY
HATFIELD - THE FORUM

UNIVERSITY OF HERTS CAMPUS,
22 MINUTE DIRECT TRAIN FROM
LONDON KINGS CROSS

Jägermeister

ADV TICKETS £44 OR £49 WITH AFTERPARTY (STBF) FROM

WWW.SLAMDUNKMUSIC.COM

@SLAMDUNKMUSIC /SLAMDUNKLTD #SDF17

FIREBALL

IMPERICON

PHOTO: AARON RICHTER

PHOTO: SUSUMU MITAWAKI

KERRANG!

PIERCE THE VEIL

VIC FUENTES

PHOTO: TOM FALCONE

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

KERRANG!

SLOTFACE

PHOTO: ANDY FORD

PHOTO: JENN FIVE

WELCOME BEST OF YOUR

TO THE NIGHT LIFE

IN JUST THREE YEARS, **EMO NITE** HAS GONE FROM BAR ROOM CLUB TO A PLACE THAT FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE BORN, AND LIVES SAVED. AND THE SOUNDTRACK'S PRETTY AMAZING, TOO. KERRANG! HEADS TO LOS ANGELES TO EXPERIENCE ROCK'S BEST NIGHT OUT…

WORDS: EVE BARLOW **PHOTOS:** GRIZZLEE MARTIN

It's after 1am on a Wednesday morning, the air smells of salt, sweat (and sugar on the asphalt), and hundreds of people are hysterically shouting along to Lit's My Own Worst Enemy – which, for what it's worth at this moment, might just be the greatest song of all time. LA's Echoplex is teeming with stage invaders while mash-up DJs Captain Cuts mix emo classics (Yellowcard's Ocean Avenue, blink-182's Feeling This, etc.) with current Top 40. Having been hit with the relentless euphoria of the previous four hours, hearts are now moshing up and down inside chests. Everyone's Jimmy Eat World-soundtracked bedroom past is reborn here in a 2017 emo-topian heaven.

Welcome to Emo Nite: a monthly celebration where nobody's tears are shamed and no amount of lung-defying sing-along sessions are enough.

When was the last time you went to a pop-punk party and saw 500 people facing the decks, instead of each other? When was the last time you felt like you were at a gig for someone's birthday with all of the friends you never knew you had? Tonight, attendants come in black T-shirts that say 'SAD AS FUCK'. They dance and crowd-surf amid dozens of black and white balloons, smile-screaming, *'Can we forget about the things I said when I was drunk?'* Everyone on the stage responds: *'Didn't mean to call you that!'* Kerrang!, searching for an even greater high than this, clocks DJ

Sonny suddenly knew what it must feel like to be in The Walking Dead

Mosh-pits: taking your life into your own hands if you've an ingrown toenail

The Kings & Queen of Emo Nite: (from left) T.J. Petracca, Babs Szabo and Morgan Freed

"Who wants to hear another sad one?"

Sonny would realise his guitar was missing in five, four, three…

Rocky: the lost member of The Black Parade

Ryan McMahon mounting the decks, and decides to follow suit. Standing tall among a sea of beautiful strangers singing in unison, the ball drops: this is the greatest night of everyone's lives.

'Lit aren't emo!' we can hear some of you shrug. Well, no. Lit are as emo as Papa Roach, Avril Lavigne or Kelly Clarkson's Since U Been Gone, which all get spins via various DJs, including Hawthorne Heights' JT Woodruff and rapper Machine Gun Kelly, who currently has the Number One pop song in the U.S. with a member of Fifth Harmony. Here, 'emo' is a state of mind. All present are as schooled in Brand New's Sic Transit Gloria as they are chanting *'This is a God dream!'* to Kanye West's Ultralight Beam. What is and isn't emo isn't a dance-floor concern, because Emo Nite transcends nostalgia. It relies upon the fact that the genre has never gone away. It's emo's open-mindedness that's allowed for its re-emergence. Tonight is a fan's safe heaven, a place where emo fights back.

Earlier this afternoon, in an office nearby, Emo Nite's three founders attempt to keep their biggest secret yet. Beyond DJ sets from New Found Glory, Mikey Way, Good Charlotte and The Used, over the past three years there have been live surprises, too. Dashboard Confessional played an acoustic set for the event's one-year anniversary. The All-American Rejects did similar for anniversary two. However, those don't come close to tonight's reveal, billed as "the most insane emo night ever".

Ensuring K! isn't about to inform the world via Twitter, 27-year-old founder T.J. Petracca reveals that at midnight, From First To Last will reunite with Sonny Moore and play their first set in 10 years. "Everyone is gonna pass out and die," he laughs, while glancing at co-founders Morgan Freed, 32, and Babs Szabo, 29. The fact the biggest DJ in the world is returning to his emo roots speaks mountains. "Skrillex is the aftermath of one of the best emo bands of our lives," says Babs. "Emo is forever evolving. That's why we've had rappers DJing, or Halsey onstage. Demi Lovato and Kristen Stewart are on the list tonight. Kristen's always in the mosh-pit dancing."

Forty thousand people have come through Emo Nite's all-inclusive doors since it began at a smaller bar in the winter of 2014. At the time, Morgan, T.J. and Babs were all working at a creative agency, hating their jobs. They bonded over a love of emo, T.J. and Babs realising their mutual affinity while singing Dashboard at a friend's karaoke party. What began as a funny idea for a bar room party turned into the originally named Taking Back Tuesday only three weeks later. After just two "crazy" bar nights, they moved to the Echoplex, bamboozled by the level of interest they had. The third Emo Nite featured a Mark Hoppus DJ set.

"We're still overwhelmed," T.J. says. "We just try and make it as cool and special every time. We're not promoters, we've never booked shows. We do this because we love this music."

The front of the office is a store for all their merch, which includes beanie hats bearing Emo Nite's gravestone symbol and parkas preaching 'Every Nite Is Emo Nite'. Outside is a neon sign that reads 'Ride Or Cry', the name of the trio's own creative agency. Their experience in social media and marketing has provided ammunition to make Emo Nite the stuff of legend. It even has its own Snapchat filter.

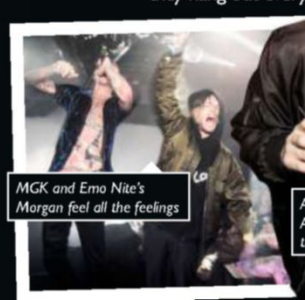
"I've seen 'Ride Or Cry' sweaters on [DJ] Alice In Wonderland and K-Stew," says Babs. "That's my favourite part about this – seeing people you'd never have thought love emo publicly saying they do." "We're redefining how people feel about the word," T.J. says. "We'll never post a joke about having swoopy hair or cutting your wrists. Fuck that. Look at the pictures of people – they're overjoyed."

Like most emo kids, T.J., Morgan and Babs listened to emo alone. T.J. recalls hearing Brand New when he got kicked out of high school. "It got me through the shittiest year of my life," he admits. The Get Up Kids changed everything for Morgan. For Babs, it was Sum 41. T.J. tears up recalling Dashboard's Emo Nite set.

Today, however, it's not the old bands they bond over, but new local discoveries such as Super Whatever, Modern Color and Sundressed, the latter of whom play the upstairs room later. Some bands met each other at Emo Nite, thereby proliferating this circle of strife. "We haven't focused on the nostalgia because we still listen to emo," says Morgan. "If someone says, 'Do you remember when you listened to this?!' I'm like, 'Yeah, yesterday.'"

A year into the LA nights, they took Emo Nite on the road around the States, learning that different cities were into varied strains of emo. In the coming months, they're visiting Philadelphia, Dallas, Las Vegas, Phoenix and Chicago. "Can we come back with you to the UK?" asks Babs with a smile.

"In Denver we had people propose onstage," T.J. says. "All the people who wait in line every month have all become best friends and they hang out every day.



MGK and Emo Nite's Morgan feel all the feelings

A quick blast of Saves The Day's At Your Funeral should turn those smiles upside-down…

Emo-tionless In White

Machine Gun Kelly regretted not specifying needing a chair for his set

Good luck maintaining that dancing for all 16 minutes of Goodbye Sky Harbor

Keeping you up, are we?

We dread to think what an entire bottle of whisky costs in a club

"THE PEOPLE HERE HAVE BECOME BEST FRIENDS. THEY HANG OUT EVERY DAY"

T.J. PETRACCA, EMO NITE CO-FOUNDER

It's not because of us – it's because we all like the same shit. We just gave them a place to find each other."

Outside the Echoplex, around 8pm, the line of gleaming fans extends three blocks in the pouring rain. Some have been here as early as 11am. At the front is Sophie, who's been coming for almost two years and met her boyfriend here a year ago. "Every person that I've ever met at Emo Nite are the people in my life," she says, introducing Kerrang! to her entire crew, including Gil. "This guy saved my life," she says. "I was getting over a Xanax addiction and was ready to give up. Gil stuck me in the middle of this group, and we've been inseparable since."

Sophie is certainly not alone in feeling the sense of family. "You can turn to any person in the room and sing in their face and they'll go with it. Emo Nite is about letting go of your past but also embracing it. This is who I am. I'm not perfect and that's okay because there are people like me here. I've never felt this type of community ever. I'm definitely going to cry tonight."

Also here is Rocky, who turns up in full MCR garb. Initially from New Jersey, he moved to LA for a girl, and wound up finding a club night. "I came thinking I'd bought Taking Back Sunday tickets, and I lined up for Taking Back *Tuesday* instead," he laughs. "I kept coming and it became this thing that I obsessed over."

For Rocky, it's not about the past: there's a newfound currency to this scene, particularly in the Trump era. "Emo came post 9/11. In 2017, younger people are looking to *feel* again. You're gonna hear struggle, you're gonna hear pain, you're gonna hear anger."

By 9pm the crowds funnel into the main room. T.J. welcomes them with Sugar, We're Goin Down. "Oh boy, do we have a treat for you tonight," he teases. "It's so fucked-up." The crowds cheer every single song intro like they're at a concert. Teeing up for his DJ set, JT Woodruff remarks that in his decade touring the UK with Hawthorne Heights he couldn't understand why pop-punk nights had never made it back home. "This is my livelihood," he says. "I only play hits. I don't want to be the lead balloon that stops the party."

Captain Cuts don't have that worry; their mash-up sets are tried and tested. They came here when Mark Hoppus DJ'd and decided to invent a way to get involved. "It was the best night I've ever had," says Ryan. "We were born to DJ this." The decision to mix Panic! At The Disco and Paramore with current Top 40 is not coincidence. With the likes of 5 Seconds Of Summer, twenty one pilots and Halsey storming up the charts, the influences of emo on the wider culture is more obvious than ever. "Even Closer by The Chainsmokers feels like it could have been a blink-182 song," he says.

There's no greater testament to emo's currency than Sonny Moore foregoing his Skrillex moniker to take up his duties as frontman of From First To Last. As the clock strikes midnight, the stage is bathed in red light. "Can I get a, 'Huh!'?" shouts Sonny. Playing seven songs including Note To Self and new anthem Make War, he embodies the same oneness of everyone in the room, a passion and an elation to return to his roots unapologetically. "Are you guys surprised?" he smiles.

Some cry. Others cheer. But, mostly, everyone is so sad they came.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EMO NITE, SEE EMONITE.COM

EMO NIGHTS

PLANE TICKETS TO THE U.S. ARE EXPENSIVE. HERE'S SOME EMO-TASTIC NIGHTS CLOSER TO HOME...

1 SLAM DUNK CLUB NIGHT

WHEN: Every Tuesday until 3am, no less.
WHERE: The Key Club, Leeds.
WHAT: A day-long festival in club night form, minus the live shows and sunburn.
INFO: Slamdunkmusic.com/the-key-club

EMO DISCO

WHEN: Nights are happening all year round.
WHERE: All over the shop – past events have called at Manchester, Birmingham and Brighton.
WHAT: "The UK's only dedicated emo night!" they cry, possibly literally.
INFO: Facebook.com/emodisco

3 HEY HEY HEY

WHEN: Saturday nights.
WHERE: The hallowed turf of Rock City, Nottingham.
WHAT: You're gonna get a bit more than just emo, but at least it gives you a chance to go for a wee and not miss that Sunny Day Real Estate B-side.
INFO: Rock-city.co.uk/club-nights/hey-hey-hey

4 NEW NOISE

WHEN: Fortnightly Wednesdays.
WHERE: The Bacchus Late bar in Kingston.
WHAT: Punks and hardcore fans rub shoulders with emos in a way that never worked on the playground.
INFO: Facebook.com/newnoise

THERE GOES MY HERO!

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, **SUM 41** CHANGED THE WORLD OF A YOUNG **AWSTEN KNIGHT**. SO WHEN WE GAVE THE **WATERPARKS** FRONTMAN THE CHANCE TO QUIZ **DERYCK WHIBLEY** AHEAD OF THEIR RESPECTIVE RETURNS TO THE UK, IT WASN'T ONE HE WAS ABOUT TO TURN DOWN...

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG **PHOTOS:** GRIZZLEE MARTIN

Awsten's levitation trick: not actually that clever

After four minutes of Awsten silently staring at Deryck, things were getting awkward

It was the sort of car journey a nine-year-old Awsten Knight and his dad would make regularly. Dad Knight would be in the driving seat – obviously, come on now – and the radio would be tuned in to a classic rock station. One day, a slightly muted, crunching riff burst from the car stereo. Awsten sat up. This wasn't Van Halen. It sounded like the Beastie Boys at their most bratty, and when the first chorus ended this fourth grader was hooked.

"Sum 41 was the first band I ever got into for myself," says Awsten. "When I was younger, I heard The Beach Boys a million times, but this was something else. I'd not heard anything fast or punky before; even my dad was psyched on it."

So the song stayed on the stereo and grabbed Awsten's attention with all the power of a rusty bear trap. As that song – Fat Lip, as Awsten would come to learn – drew to a close, the kid made a mental note to collect every Sum 41 CD that he could. Even the glow-in-the-dark imports.

Old, cynical people often stare into the distance when they say that you should never meet your heroes. That's probably because they bumped into GWAR while wearing white jeans. Ignore them. The Waterparks frontman disregarded this advice when he spotted Sum 41 on the red carpet at an awards ceremony last year. There's a photo, which Awsten tweeted the following day, where he's clinging onto a bemused Deryck. No security waded in, luckily.

This sunny Los Angeles afternoon is going to be pretty easy for us. Awsten has been briefed to ask Deryck questions. Us? We're just here to record the chat and gently steer the conversation. The floor is open, so Awsten kicks things off.

"So, Deryck, what's it like knowing that Waterparks is your fault?" he asks with a grin. It's to the point. We like it. Even Deryck, who's probably done thousands of interviews, is taken aback by Awsten's opening gambit.

"Um, I'm just finding this out now!" he laughs, gathering his thoughts. "I'm flattered, but I'm not used to hearing stuff like that. I don't go around thinking that people are too afraid to tell me I'm great! It doesn't really happen, but that's very cool."

"I HAD A STALKER THAT WANTED TO KILL ME..."

● DERYCK WHIBLEY ●

Right now, Waterparks are currently enjoying the sort of attention that greeted Sum 41 around the release of their debut album All Killer, No Filler 15 years ago. Deryck's lot, on the other hand, have done and seen it all. The highs, the lows, the popstar weddings, the brushes with death in hospital wards. This interview is going to be just fine. Best let them just talk, then.

"So when did it feel like things were going right for you?" Awsten asks.

"We'd do backyard parties and basement shows for the first few years," says Deryck. "There's one band – it happened to be us – that'll build a following and take off, then everyone turns on them. But I've never cared what people think or say."

As Waterparks' star began to rise last year, they too found themselves the victims of petty scene backbiting.

"I put us up for the Warped Tour Battle Of The Bands thing and we were number one," explains Awsten. "People turned on us. They were *really* pissed."

"Well, the success part happens quickly and you're elevated all of a sudden," says Deryck, who then tells Awsten about the first time he was recognised in public. The frontman was exploring Philadelphia before a show, and Fat Lip had started to regularly appear on MTV (other Sum 41 songs *are* available).

"People were staring and starting to recognise me," says Deryck. "It kind of freaked me out because of how quickly it happened. After that, it never stopped."

The idea of having a music video on the television seems to blow Awsten's mind. After all, MTV these days seems to be reality shows about pissed Geordies and gullible romantics.

"Damn," says Awsten. "To have a video on TV would be *awesome*."

You should probably check out Kerrang! TV, Awsten – channel 368 on Sky, mate…

Sum 41 have been around the block a fair bit. No, not like *that*. Deryck was the focus of tabloid scrutiny for several years after wedding Avril Lavigne in 2006; the pair divorced four years later. In 2014, he was hospitalised for alcoholism, which left him with severe liver and kidney damage. Today, he looks in fine fettle. But, when you appear in the sort of magazines that make waiting room tables buckle, you're going to attract a more enthusiastic fan than most.

"So what's been your weirdest fan encounter?" Awsten asks Deryck after some gentle nudging. "I've had to send our tour manager a handful of SOS text messages for him to get me sometimes. Sometimes he's busy doing something and I'll be stranded!"

"Well," begins Deryck, in the sort of tone used by people who have the sort of stories that never go out of style, "there was this stalker in 2007. He was from the UK. He became obsessed with wanting to kill me, which I didn't know much about until the FBI got involved. He got put away in an asylum, but I had to start rolling with serious security for a while."

"Damn, that's super-weird. I can't beat that," asks Awsten, in the sort of tone used by people who weren't expecting *that* story.

Time to wrap this up before the pair go their separate ways and prepare for their respective UK tours.

"The only thing that sucks is all the travel and getting sick," says Deryck of his life in Sum 41. "But I don't feel overwhelmed with it all. Maybe it's because I feel lucky. How about you?"

"The same," smiles Awsten. "All my friends are at school and I'm making songs for my *job* and toured all year. I feel I got the cheat codes to life."

So, yeah, the person who said you should never meet your heroes? Talking out of their arse…

SUM 41 TOUR THE UK THIS WEEK. WATERPARKS TOUR WITH ALL TIME LOW NEXT MONTH – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

ALL HEROES, NO ZEROS

WE ASKED DERYCK TO REVEAL HIS PUNK HERO. "THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE," HE SAID, BEFORE LISTING SIX

"I don't think there was just one. There were a few musicians I looked up to in high school. There was **ELVIS COSTELLO**, **JOHNNY ROTTEN**, **IGGY POP**, **JOE STRUMMER** and **BILLIE JOE ARMSTRONG**. They were all influences in the early days. With Elvis Costello, it's how wordy his lyrics are and the chord changes he uses. Johnny Rotten has got this great all-round vocal delivery style that's different to anyone else. His look, too – his hair and clothes were amazing. Joe Strummer was the whole package as well. Green Day obviously had more of a modern sound that was closer to the style of music I'd play. When Dookie came out, I was 14. So going into ninth grade, that was *the* band. We'd just lost Nirvana and Green Day came in and filled the void. I'd pick **FAT MIKE** from NOFX as well. He was pretty controversial when you're 16; some of the shit he'd say and do was outrageous."

Ready Steady Cook got a bizarre revamp

SUBSCRIBE!

GET KERRANG! FOR JUST

£7.50 A MONTH!*

ALSO

◆ ALL THE SAME GREAT INTERVIEWS WITH THE WORLD'S BIGGEST ROCKSTARS! ◆
◆ THE GREATEST ROCK POSTERS! ◆ THE TRUTH BEHIND ALL THE STORIES THAT MATTER! ◆
◆ AND ROCK'S BIGGEST GIG GUIDE! ◆

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

PRINT EDITION	DIGITAL EDITION	PRINT & DIGITAL EDITIONS
£7.50 A MONTH	£3.70 A MONTH	£8.25 A MONTH

SUBSCRIBE ONLINE GREATMAGAZINES.CO.UK/KERRANG CALL 01858 43 88 84 (QUOTING ADAA)

Terms & Conditions: Subscriptions will start with the next available issue. Prices quoted apply when you pay by reoccurring payment. One-off payment methods also available – see website for details. You will not receive a renewal reminder and the Direct Debit payments will continue to be taken unless you tell us otherwise. This offer closes on February 28, 2017. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Cost from landlines for 01 numbers per minute are (approximate) 2p to 10p. Cost from mobiles per minute (approximate) 10p to 40p. Costs vary depending on the geographical location in the UK. You may get free calls to some numbers as part of your call package – please check with your phone provider. Order lines open 8am-9.30pm (Mon-Fri), 8am-4pm (Sat). UK orders only. Overseas? Please phone +44 1858 438828 for further details. Calls may be monitored or recorded for training purposes. For full terms and conditions please visit: www.greatmagazines.co.uk/offer-terms-and-conditions.

*When you choose the print-only option

ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

MIKE DUCE
LOWER THAN ATLANTIS

LTA'S OUTSPOKEN LEADER: HE LOVES STRANGER THINGS, HATES NOT HAVING WATER...

fig.1

THE ETHOS I LIVE MY LIFE BY IS...

"'Things could always be worse.' We've even got a song on the new album called Could Be Worse. No matter how bad things can get, the idea that my head hasn't been fucking cut off or something does give me some comfort."

fig.2

THE THING THAT SURPRISES PEOPLE ABOUT ME IS...

"That I'm quite nice. I think a lot of people are scared or intimidated by me because of the way I talk in interviews. I've always got to have my guard up. I've never asked for people to look up to me, but I've realised I do have a responsibility. I want to be able to inspire people – I'm just a normal geezer that's come from nothing and is doing this cool thing."

fig.3

THE ONE THING THAT HAS TO BE ON MY RIDER IS...

"Water. Human beings are made up of something like 70 per cent water, so if you're not replenishing it you'll die of dehydration. If I got to a venue and there weren't bottles of water, I wouldn't kick off, I'd just drink it out of the toilet like a dog."

fig.4

THE PERSON WHO'S TAUGHT ME THE MOST IS...

"Josh [Franceschi] from You Me At Six. I would say 'me', but I can't say that. People usually come to me with their problems and questions. Josh's outlook on things – the way he conducts himself – obviously works. I've spoken to him a lot recently about the band, and his advice has been invaluable."

fig.5

THE THING I'D LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED AS IS...

"A great songwriter and musician. If I had to pick out of those two, I'd definitely pick songwriter. Anyone can sit in their bedroom learning scales and modes, and be technically good at their instrument, but there are more of those people than those that can actually orchestrate a song."

fig.6

THE TV SHOW THAT'S AFFECTED ME THE MOST RECENTLY IS...

"Stranger Things. I don't really get emotionally affected by watching films and TV, as I'm usually just thinking of the camera angles and the quality of the acting, but Stranger Things gave me a sense of nostalgia even when I was watching it, which was weird! I've watched the whole thing three times: I watched it on my own, then I made my mum watch it, and then I watched it with my bird, all in the space of a week. The intro to a song called Money on our new album is influenced by the music in Stranger Things."

fig.7

MY FAVOURITE ALBUM OF ALL TIME IS...

"Safe In Sound by Lower Than Atlantis. It's the album that I listen to every day. Even though I created it, I still get new things from it every time I listen to it. I'm saying that because that's how I feel right now."

fig.8

THE COOLEST THING A FAN HAS GIVEN ME IS...

"The homemade merch our fans in Japan made. Our fans are always bringing us cool shit. We went to Japan for the first time in 2014. I saw a girl with a fake Far Q T-shirt, which was fucking wild! Japan is like a cool alien planet, but to get there and have people walking up to us with their own homemade merch was so cool."

fig.9

IF I WASN'T IN A BAND I'D BE...

"A corpse. I'd definitely have had a drug overdose or something. This band is the only thing that gave me the possibility of making something of myself and doing something with my life – it's what's kept me going."

"JOSH FROM YOU ME AT SIX HAS TAUGHT ME THE MOST..."

• MIKE DUCE •

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE PHOTO: ANDY FORD

LIVES

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

GREEN DAY

PLUS: THE INTERRUPTERS

O2 ARENA, LONDON. 08.02.17

KKKKK

TIME OF YOUR LIFE! OAKLAND RAIDERS PROVE LOVE TRUMPS HATE AT FIRST UK SHOWS IN FOUR YEARS

WORDS: IAN WINWOOD **PHOTOS:** AVALON, PAUL HARRIES, WENN

IN RECENT years, UK sightings of Green Day in indoor venues have been rare indeed. For anyone in the market for a postcode lottery, inevitably it is London that has fared best. But even in what is by far the country's biggest city, live appearances from the Oakland trio in rooms-with-a-roof number only two: a pair of shows at the O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire and the O2 Academy Brixton in 2012 and 2013 respectively. For anyone who lives out of the capital's reach, the last decade has been hard lines.

This has not always been the case. On tour in support of 2004's blockbusting American Idiot album, in 2005 Green Day's touring caravan pulled its wagons up everywhere. But while, yes, Green Day have deigned to grace just three cities this time – Leeds, Manchester and London – frontman Billie Joe Armstrong is on record as saying that he only feels that a campaign in support of a new album is fully in train once he finds himself aboard a plane bound for the UK. Given this, even this briefest of touch-downs qualifies as a homecoming as triumphant as that eulogised in the repeated refrain of '*We're coming home again*' that beams so euphoniously toward the end of American Idiot.

If this is a cause for celebration in principle, in practice it is doubly so. Where to begin? Well how about this: as Billie Joe strums forth the opening riff to American Idiot, one is struck by the thought that today this song, and others that its creators might self-consciously describe as 'political music', are even more resonant and apposite than they were at the time of

"Shit! Where did I put my drums?!"

STAR SHOUT!
TRÉ COOL
(GREEN DAY, DRUMS)

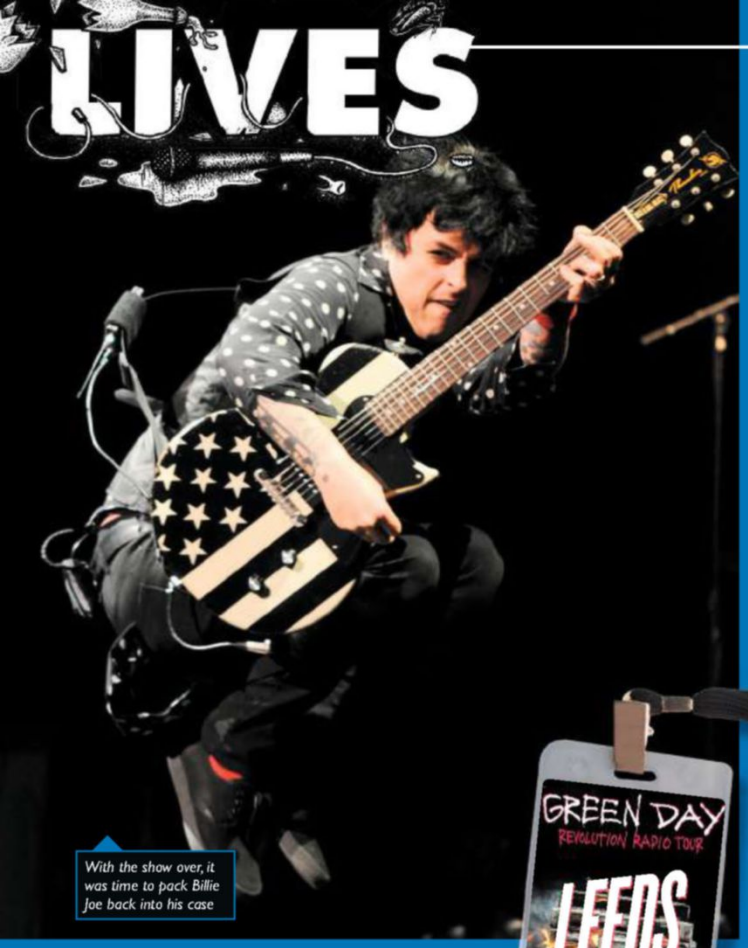
HOW DID THIS EVENING'S SET EVOLVE INTO SHAPE, THEN?
"It started when we did a tour of smaller venues in the U.S. in the fall. Those shows were great, but they were also kind of strange because we were working out which songs to play. But by the time we'd finished, we'd got it locked down tight."

IS IT NICE TO BE BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN?
"Oh yeah, it's always good to be on the road, and it's always good to be on the road in Europe. But we were really looking forward to coming back to the UK, because the audiences are so great."

She was nervous, but one fan quickly realised she was right to test her mother-in-law joke on Billie Joe

Mike Dirnt's sideburn did an excellent job on backing vocals

LIVES



With the show over, it was time to pack Billie Joe back into his case

FIRST DIRECT ARENA, LEEDS. 05.02.17

■ THE FIRST UK show on the Revolution Radio tour. The first UK Green Day show in four years. Talk about a re-introduction. Billie Joe Armstrong looks like he's just been given a birthday cake the size of a tennis court as he careens around the stage during opener Know Your Enemy, and it's clear that he and his troops have missed us almost as much as we have them in the intervening years. Any worries that the ¡Uno!, ¡Dos!, ¡Tré! trilogy – tonight completely ignored – were a mark of diminishing powers are firmly annihilated, as they once again prove that they are one of the most entertaining live bands in existence. The 30-song set is designed for max impact, so that the extended jams, sing-alongs and general horsing around parts are balanced out by one-two charges through Basket Case and Burnout, the perfect mix of shiny showmanship with raw punk power. Worth the wait? Absolutely. Welcome back to the UK, lads!

DAVID TORRENCE

their release. It is as if in 2004 the lines '*Welcome to a new kind of tension all across the alienation*' were nothing more than a soundcheck for a theatre of horrors to come; and to hear 17,000 people sing these words, it seems the audience knows this, too.

Then there is the notion that the true measure of musical greatness isn't how good a band's finest songs are – and whether it's Hitchin' A Ride, Waiting, Boulevard Of Broken Dreams or St. Jimmy, to name just four, tonight you can take your pick – but how thin the distance is between their best songs and their worst. Over the course of two hours and 20 minutes tonight, for Green Day that gap is vanishingly small.

Before all that, though, emerging Orange County ska-punks The Interrupters have what might seem like the unenviable task of warming up a room that is here to see only one band. But this quartet write strong songs, play with a precision that belies their years, and present themselves with a confidence sufficient to rouse the O2 from what might otherwise be an indifferent slumber. As a starter-course, their 30-minute set is a triumph.

Green Day have been at home in venues such as this for many years now, and given the band's ability to play for those gathered in the high-altitude seats at the back as much as to those gathered at the front of the stage, it shows. Not once, or twice, but three times, fans are pulled from the audience to sing or play the guitar, and not a moment goes by without some sort of showboating. Occasionally this becomes a pain in the arse, and tonight's set would benefit if fewer songs – the utterly perfect Letterbomb, in particular – were elongated for the purpose of conducting the audience in mass sing-alongs, just as it would were Billie Joe to reduce his cries of "I said a wheeey-oh" by a half.

Although his cry of "Fuck you, Donald Trump" at the end of American Idiot is most welcome.

Of course, the band's propulsive energy and the preternatural fluency of their frontman's songwriting talent – evident tonight even on a rare airing of the early-day beauty Christie Road – mean that such hesitations don't really matter, and that when Green Day lend their shoulder to the music that has rightly made them famous, no live group can touch them. Whether it's marquee draws such as When I Come Around, Holiday or Basket Case; whether it's box-fresh bangers

Billie Joe's new selfie-mic was a real boon

MANCHESTER ARENA. 06.02.17

■ IF YOU'RE looking for just how good Green Day are as a band, it's the way Billie Joe Armstrong, Mike Dirnt and Tré Cool, plus their band of extra hands, can turn a corner at a moment's notice without missing a beat. Tonight, this takes the form of King For A Day, the ska-punk hail to the joys of cross-dressing that's traditionally become a lengthy set-piece where jams abound and anything goes. Saxophone solo? Sure, man, why not? Dropping in snippets of The Beatles' Hey Jude, The Rolling Stones' Satisfaction, The Undertones' Teenage Kicks and Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life into the middle and somehow making it work? Absolutely. How about doing all this while the musicians all lie down onstage and reduce the pace to a slow groove, while somehow keeping an entire arena eating out of the palms of their hands? Yeah, Green Day can do that. And not enough other bands can, making this return all the more of a special occasion.

LAURA WRIGHT

such as Youngblood or the entirely magnificent Forever Now; or whether it's the somewhat obscure Burnout or Scattered, tonight rendered damn-near perfect, the set provides a masterclass in its pacing, its construction, and, of course, its execution. This is achieved with showmanship, naturally, with Billie Joe working the room as a relentless force of nature that summons from the audience something close to mania. But it's also achieved with musical dexterity, anchored by the exquisite drumming of Tré Cool, that is by turns a kiss on the cheek of a sleeping lover and an 18-wheel lorry propelled by booster rockets and driven by a lunatic through the wall of a warehouse filled with nitroglycerin.

Following the elongated dizziness of King For A Day, tonight featuring a snippet from The Undertones' deathless Teenage Kicks, and the masterpiece that is Jesus Of Suburbia, the night glides to a close with the extraordinary Ordinary World, followed by nine words from Billie Joe that go without saying – '*I hope you had the time of your life*'. Exhausting, exhaustive and always exhilarating, Green Day remain the band that provide just that.

FAN SHOUT!

ELLISA, 15, IPSWICH

"This is my first Green Day concert and I just loved it. I love the band and I love their music. My favourite songs were American Idiot and Still Breathing."

REN, 18, MAIDENHEAD

"Tonight was fucking incredible! Their chemistry onstage was amazing, and every one of them played brilliantly. I just thought it was amazing."

DARK VADER: "As far as I'm concerned, we own the UK now. We've been playing sold-out shows, which shows that the people of this far-flung outpost are now fully paid-up and pacified members of the Empire."

GALACTIC EMPIRE

SATANS HOLLOW, MANCHESTER. 10.02.17

KKKK

'DARK VADER' AND HIS EVIL MINIONS TAKE METAL TO THE DARK SIDE ON 2017'S MOST STAR-DESTROYING TOUR

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS **PHOTOS:** ANDY GALLAGHER

DARK VADER: "Attempting to catch the 42 bus to Fallowfield after loading out in the midst of a Star Wars club night."

A SHORT time ago, in a venue not very far away, five representatives of the feared Galactic Empire came to spread peace and order beneath the weight of an iron fist, a white polymer jackboot and some shredding metal riffs.

As a concept it's a little slice of genius. Metal is awesome. Star Wars is awesome. That means that a Star Wars-themed metal band is awesome squared, right?

You'll get no arguments here. Now, as guitarist and Sith Lord Dark Vader puts it, "Witness the firepower of this fully-armed and operational metal station," as he guides us through Galactic Empire's conquest of Manchester…

DARK VADER: "While his methods are questionable, our bounty drummer is a formidable addition to the Empire."

DARK VADER: "Bass Commander keeps the show alive. His stage presence skills are now complete."

DARK VADER: "For some reason, there are Rebel Scum everywhere we play. No matter – the public executions will continue, to show the Alliance that we do not tolerate insolence."

SUICIDAL TENDENCIES

02 FORUM KENTISH TOWN, LONDON. 29.01.17

KK

ULTRA-TOUGH VENICE BEACH SKATE-PUNK LEGENDS FAIL TO IGNITE THE CAPITAL

■ THE FIRST time Suicidal Tendencies played London, 30 years ago now, one of their fans was so overcome by the music that he clambered up the PA stack at the side of the stage and leapt from 20 feet in the air onto the audience below. Almost two generations on from this most thrilling of nights, time has not been kind to this still misfit band from the beach. The problem here is that ST's best songs – Institutionalized and You Can't Bring Me Down, for example, both played tonight – are adolescent in their anger, while onstage the sight is of middle-aged men in bandanas and shorts galloping around looking like they got dressed in the dark. Frontman Mike Muir in particular looks like a fitness instructor shadow-boxing an octopus. With the addition of ex-Slayer sticksman Dave Lombardo on drums, the group can of course play a bit, but even this is handicapped by a live sound that is all top-end and no thrust. The decision toward the end of this hour-long set to haul 20 or so audience members from the pretty much sold-out crowd onstage so they may merrily slam dance their way through the awful Possessed To Skate and the still fabulously tasteless I Saw Your Mommy affords the viewer a sense of just how chaotic Suicidal Tendencies gigs must have been in the days of youthful alienation played out in front of crowds with a liking for violence. But, really, tonight is a long way from that, and all that remains come curfew is the woozy, unsatisfying sense of nostalgia for its own sake.

IAN WINWOOD

SKUNK ANANSIE

PLUS: THE PEARL HARTS

02 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON. 04.02.17

KKKK

STALWART ROCK OUTSIDERS WHIP UP SONIC CHAOS AT SOLD-OUT HOMETOWN GIG

■ WHEN SKUNK Anansie arrived 23 years ago and were voted Best New British Band in this very magazine, they stood at the crossroads of the Brit-rock bubble – too heavy for the Oasis-Blur duality, too anthemic for the hard rock scene they took cues from. Instead, they excelled by staying true to their singularly weird DNA. It's an impression hammered home tonight as captivating frontwoman Skin stands silhouetted by a solid wall of light, commanding a rapt audience amidst her band's titanic racket. Even scuzzy, riffy openers The Pearl Harts remark on the big shoes they're keeping warm, with a simple "Holy fucking shit!" from axe-toting wailer Kirsty Lowrey. And while the duo might appear tiny on such a big stage, they slug out Godzilla-sized grooves with gritty swagger. Skunk Anansie on the other hand can hardly be contained, as Skin bounces onstage in a hooded robe like a boxer. But they're pulling no punches, blasting straight into early manifesto Intellectualise My Blackness. Seldom heard songs like the tumultuous Cheap Honesty offer some thrill, but it's Little Baby Swastikkka and God Loves Only You, accompanied by images of religious conflict, that best display the zero-bullshit attitude that made Skunk Anansie such a compelling proposition in the first place. Even two decades on, there's still nobody quite like them.

JAMES MACKINNON

ANTHRAX

PLUS: THE RAVEN AGE

02 INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM. 09.02.17

KKKKK

THRASH HEROES REMAIN VERY MUCH AMONG THE LIVING ON ALBUM ANNIVERSARY TOUR

■ MORE THAN two hours after they began, and 10 minutes beyond this venue's supposed curfew, Anthrax are finally winding things up. It's been thrilling, eye-boggling and ear-splitting; an off-road rally across tumultuous thrash metal terrain. Comprising two sets, the first selected by fans in an online vote, and the second a run through of their most revered album, 1987 thrashterpiece Among The Living, it's the first time Anthrax have undertaken such a show. Once these European dates are done, they probably won't do it again, so if you were here, congratulate yourself. While Anthrax aren't the biggest member of thrash metal's Big Four, tonight they prove to be significantly the most fun.

The task of warming the crowd up falls to Brit newcomers The Raven Age. Showing due respect to the headliners, theirs is an astute set of modern, melodic metal that could bear fruit in future – and it's well received, too. Come 8:45pm, though, you've got one of metal's most consistently-loved acts opening with A.I.R. and Madhouse, and you've got bassist Frank Bello bouncing on the spot, eyes rolling, mouth wide – nothing in the real world seems important.

This mammoth double-set elicits constantly self-renewing crowd hysterics. A twitching, gesticulating Joey Belladonna stalks the stage, never shying away from the big notes. Framed by curtains of hair, he points in awe at guitarists Scott Ian and Jonathan Donais as they crunch out some of history's greatest riffs. It's not just shock and awe; the Among The Living set is weirdly emotional, too, its themes still painfully relevant to our times. Even after this it continues, Anthrax returning for the proto-rap metal I'm The Man and a rampant Antisocial. Witnessing something so huge in such a relatively small venue is something that nobody here will forget.

STAR SHOUT!

SCOTT IAN

(ANTHRAX, GUITAR)

DOES IT FEEL LIKE 30 YEARS SINCE AMONG THE LIVING CAME OUT?

"Some things that happened years ago feel like they only happened yesterday. But Among The Living feels like a long time ago. I had hair when we did it! I was thinking I should come out in a wig!"

SOME BANDS SHY AWAY FROM NOSTALGIA. NOT ANTHRAX?

"Sonisphere 2014 was the only time we'd played the album in full, and it was fucking great. When the anniversary came up, we thought it would be cool to do this."

Joey Belladonna was very proud of his latest bogey

Santa's beard enjoyed its off-season holiday on Scott Ian's chin

WORDS: STEVE BEEBEE PHOTOS: ANDY GALLAGHER

REVIEWS

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

MALLORY KNOX

WIRED *(RCA)*

KKKK

CAMBRIDGE ALT.ROCKERS SET OUT TO BLOW YOUR FUSES WITH HIGH-VOLTAGE THIRD LP

'*IT'S TIME to come clean*', confesses Mikey Chapman, on Wired's acerbic opener Giving It Up, '*that all I thought I believed is getting harder to see*'. Passion. Frustration. Desperation. Less than a verse into their billowy, chameleonic third album, it seems Mallory Knox have shifted gears again. A scathing indictment of the naysayers, the sycophants, the industry-leeches who've speedbumped their rise, it's an intense new benchmark for the Cambridge rockers. More importantly, it's a rallying-cry, with Mikey's '*This time can't toe the line*' assertion confirming that MK are going their own way here.

That's more a change of momentum than direction, mind. Between their diamond-in-the-rough 2013 debut, Signals, and the radio-ready realisation of 2014 follow-up Asymmetry, Mallory already know what works. The sweetness. The swagger. Gritty alt. guitar work undercutting a powerfully melodic vocal interplay. What they needed was a creative kick in the arse, a flash of inspiration, a power-surge to send them charging, Frankenstein-like, into the big leagues.

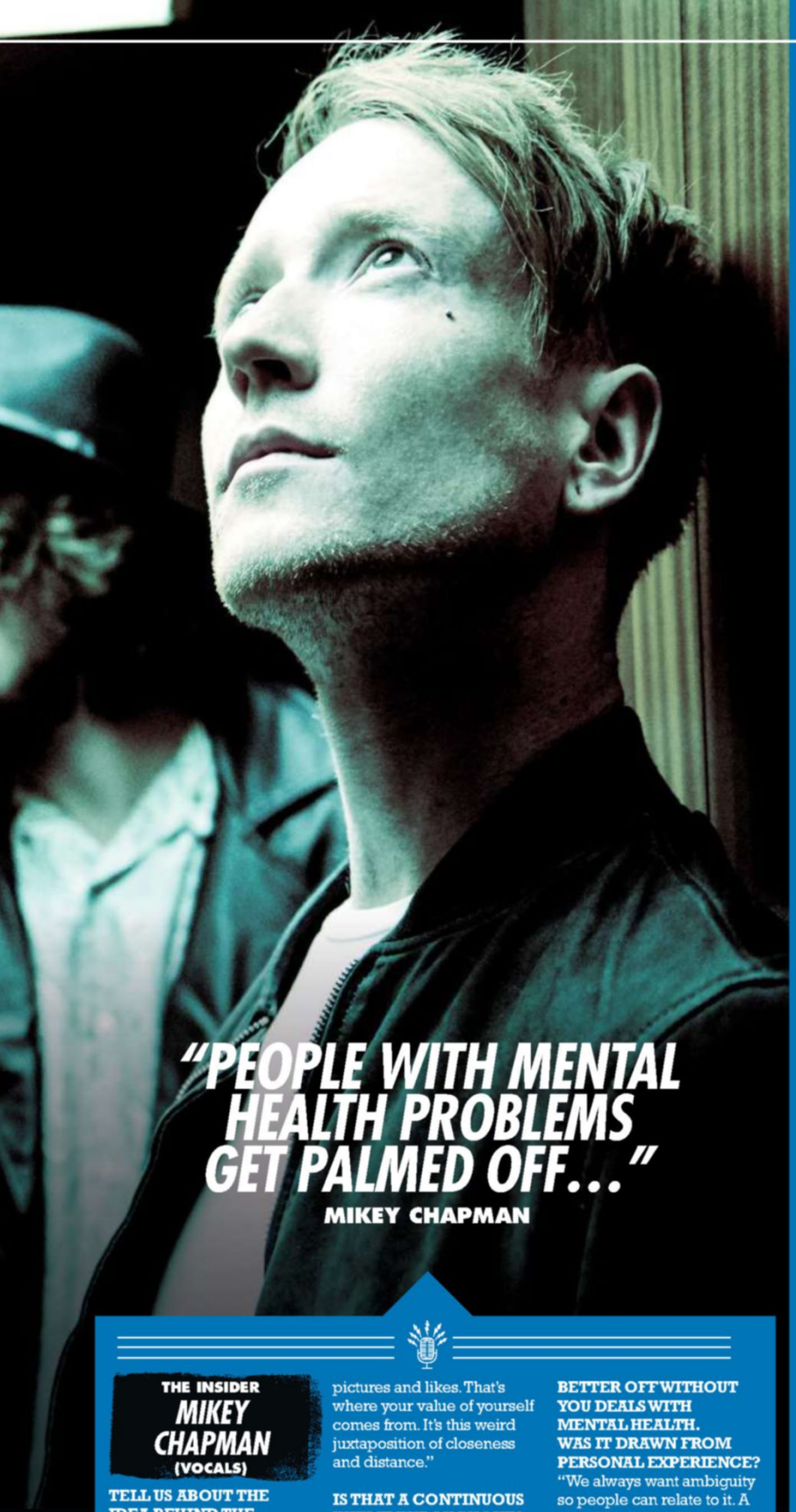
In Wired, they've got just that. It's a record with an electric crackle, a halogen glow. It's unlikely to shock, sure, but it's easily capable of raising a goosebump or two. Sun-bleached banger California, for instance, pours Taking Back Sunday's earnest emo essence through Good Charlotte's pop-punk SodaStream to effervescent effect. Likewise, the ingenious melodies of Better Off Without You proves floatily evocative.

Falling In Love, meanwhile, walks a perilous tightrope between beguiling fragility and twee annoyance, while Lucky Me and the free-flowing title-track drag low-slung '70s riffs, kicking hard, into the digital age. Even the simplistic, cloying indie of the album's low-water-mark, For You (*'Sometimes it feels like tomorrow is paved with yesterday's sorrow…*') is more empty-calorie interlude than complete momentum-halter.

It's as edgy as a dodgeball, of course, and unlikely to win over any haters. Ignoring any such naysayers, however, seems to be this album's primary purpose, and Mallory Knox are simply reaching deeper into themselves in order to really celebrate being themselves, with a few nifty tricks. There's plenty to be said for quality, consistency, and unabashed Britishness, see. And coming on with as much sparkle and polish as this might not be such a bad thing. Especially with a set of songs as steeped in summer warmth and heartfelt self-belief as these.

Go on, plug in!

DOWNLOAD: Giving It Up, Wired.
FOR FANS OF: Taking Back Sunday, You Me At Six, Funeral For A Friend.
SAM LAW



"PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS GET PALMED OFF..."
MIKEY CHAPMAN

TRACK BY TRACK

VUKOVI

VUKOVI (LAB)

KKKKK

SCOTTISH ROCKERS BREAK FROM THE PACK WITH A DEBUT OF DIFFERENT STROKES

1 LA DI DA
Vibrant colour? Gritty attitude? Weird vibes? Welcome to the world of Vukovi, and introductions don't come more confrontational than this wired middle-finger about abusive relationships.

2 AND HE LOST HIS MIND
Part cheerleading, part punk savagery – you won't know whether to dance or fight to this.

3 WEIRDO
Does what it says on the tin. A twisted tune about being weird, packaged inside a skewed blend of electro-pop and chugging guitars. Because normality is overrated.

4 TARGET PRACTICE
Living well is the best revenge? Wrong! Calling out haters with a riffy monster charged by irresistibly danceable beats is much better.

5 PREY
Floaty guitars imbue a neon sheen on this warm banger. Think driving at sunset while blasting the Stranger Things soundtrack. Nice? Nice.

6 BOUNCY CASTLE
Things heat up here. Every bassline twitches. Every chorus surges. And Janine Shilstone's howl? Indomitable.

7 WANDER
Let's talk Janine's vocals. Sometimes it's a fearsome holler, but here amidst glossy synths she channels the effortless drawl of Garbage's Shirley Manson. Ultra-cool.

8 I'M WIRED
And here the good ship Vukovi pushes into interstellar overdrive. Adrenalised beats drive spectral melodies, like Enter Shikari crashing PVRIS' party.

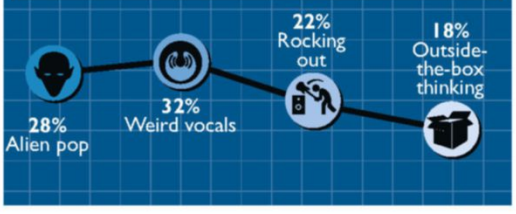
9 ANIMAL
The energy doesn't let up, pouncing headfirst into this frenetic riff-a-thon. MADNESS!

10 BOY GEORGE
'*You're nothing but a cheap-ass waste of space*', growls Janine. Fortunately, this relentlessly filthy groove more than justifies its place here.

11 HE WANTS ME NOT
A riff that makes you think Rage Against The Machine are in the house, then it dissolves into dream pop territory. *What?!*

12 COLOUR ME IN
The madness ends with something disarmingly straight-up here. It's an impressive sleight of hand from an impressively original band. A Vuk-ing brilliant debut.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF...



WORDS: JAMES MACKINNON

THE INSIDER
MIKEY CHAPMAN
(VOCALS)

TELL US ABOUT THE IDEA BEHIND THE TITLE, WIRED...
"It's to do with the perception we all have of ourselves now, because of the way we're interlinked. In so many ways we're closer than ever before, because of our online connectivity, and yet in so many ways we're so much more distant and *dis*connected. Our closeness comes not from a physical intimacy or even a mental intimacy, but through pictures and likes. That's where your value of yourself comes from. It's this weird juxtaposition of closeness and distance."

IS THAT A CONTINUOUS THEME THROUGHOUT?
"The 'Wired' idea fits in many ways. Sometimes it's looking at the notion in a more practical way – how someone realised it for themselves in some small way. Then there's the more bitey, emotional side of the realisation that you are still caught up in it, and you are just broken. Bits are about taking the responsibility of how you behaved, or how you feel."

BETTER OFF WITHOUT YOU DEALS WITH MENTAL HEALTH. WAS IT DRAWN FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE?
"We always want ambiguity so people can relate to it. A song like that isn't just about us, but Sam [Douglas, bass] and I have found ourselves in positions we definitely didn't want to be in. You can't figure out things by yourself. You go to a doctor, someone who is supposed to be there to help you, and you get nothing more than a piece of paper and, 'Take these tablets, everything will be alright.' It's not a pathway to a cure. It's nothing more than palming someone off."

ACCEPTANCE

COLLIDING BY DESIGN *(RISE)*

KKKK

REUNITED SEATTLE POP-ROCKERS SHOW NO RUST ON LONG-OVERDUE SECOND ALBUM

IF SEATTLE is famous for music, it's for the dog-eared distortion and downbeat iconography of classic grunge. Acceptance, by contrast, hail from the city's lesser-spotted sunny side. Originally active between 1998 and 2006, they regrouped in 2015 and set to work on this long-awaited second LP. Alive with all the freshness and vitality of rebirth, they've delivered 11 tracks that manage to bridge the vast airiness of their mid-'00s heyday and the poppy progression of here and now. There's the dense, driving emotion of Come Closer, the haunting synth-work of Goodbye, and the vibrant, poppy retrofication of Haunted. After a decade away, most outfits would struggle to connect with the next generation. But this should find just what their name describes.

DOWNLOAD: Diagram Of A Simple Man.
FOR FANS OF: Jimmy Eat World, Anberlin.
SAM LAW

SIX FEET UNDER

TORMENT *(METAL BLADE)*

KKK

FORMER CANNIBAL CORPSE MAN SERVES UP ANOTHER DOSE OF HOMICIDAL GROOVES

FOR A band that initially started as a side-project and who are obsessed mainly with death, Six Feet Under sound in rude health. It's now over two decades since founder and frontman Chris Barnes was booted out of Cannibal Corpse, and his second band have carved out their own distinctive, if slightly less revered space. The lyrics are as blood-spattered as ever, and song titles like Knife Through The Skull make you thankful that Chris' phlegm-gargling growls remain largely indecipherable. Torment is driven as much by slow, deep and utterly relentless grooves as it is by the carefully rationed blastbeats and chaotic grindcore tumbles. It's thoroughly unpleasant stuff, but then that's pretty much the whole point.

DOWNLOAD: Skeleton.
FOR FANS OF: Cannibal Corpse, Obituary.
PAUL TRAVERS

SUICIDE SILENCE

SUICIDE SILENCE *(NUCLEAR BLAST)*

KK

DEATHCORE VETS GO CLEAN (BUT MUDDY THE WATERS) ON CONFUSED FIFTH ALBUM

YOU CAN'T Stop Me, Suicide Silence's first album following the death of vocalist Mitch Lucker in 2012, was an unprecedented success. This follow-up is the 'difficult second album' for v2 of the band, and is sure to cleave opinion in two. Remember on The Black Crown – their final record with Mitch – when Jonathan Davis cameoed on Witness The Addiction? Six years later, and fronted by Eddie Hermida, they're returning the favour with an album that sounds as much like Korn's heaviest record as it does Suicide Silence's mildest – complete with Ross Robinson as producer and Hold Me Up, Hold Me Down's guitars straight out of Life Is Peachy. If that sounds slick, it isn't: what once was clinical is clumsy; what once was driven and direct now meanders and lacks focus. It's proof a left turn too extreme doesn't necessarily take you forward.

DOWNLOAD: Doris.
FOR FANS OF: Korn, Thy Art Is Murder.
JAMES HICKIE

LYRIC OF THE WEEK

'I'm holding on / Why is everything so heavy?' Linkin Park have dropped a brand-new song online. And it appears their new album deals with big questions, like properties of physics. Expect other tunes from the new record to ask *'Can water curve?'* and *'What do feathers weigh on the moon?'*

BAND: Linkin Park
SONG: Heavy
ALBUM: One More Light

SLEEVE OF THE WEEK

Brit punk mob The One Hundred have managed to fit both a sandy desert and an arctic tundra on the cover of their Dark Matters debut. How? Photoshop, and a very big camera.

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

FLORAL & FADING, PIERCE THE VEIL

Pierce The Veil do 'nerdy band playing a bowling alley' very well. Which is handy, because that's what they're doing here. Vic Fuentes in particular does an Oscar-worthy performance. Just look at his geek-hair! Pro.

JOHNOSSI

BLOOD JUNGLE *(UNIVERSAL)*

KKK

QUIRKTASTIC SWEDISH DUO ROCK ON THIN ICE WITH CHARMINGLY BARMY FIFTH LP

AN AGGRESSIVELY unhinged album title. Artwork that's so cringy, it's not. Music as unashamed in its accessibility as its oddball verve. Say what you will about Johnossi, but they're artists with undeniable chutzpah. The Stockholm duo – vocalist/guitarist John Engelbert, percussionist Oskar 'Ossi' Bonde – aren't just musicians brazen enough to name their band after, well, themselves. They're men with the guts – demonstrated in Hands, here – to craft a jangling anthem about police brutality from the POV of both hard-bitten cop and flailing perp. Seriously, it's really something. Beyond that, from the stomping, brass-infused widescreen of Air Is Free to the whistling disco-funk of Hey Kiddo, Blood Jungle lurches along the border between outsider cool and outright silliness. Preposterousness, though, is always preferable to boredom.

DOWNLOAD: Hands.
FOR FANS OF: The Hives, QOTSA.
SAM LAW

HARK

MACHINATIONS *(SEASON OF MIST)*

KKKK

WELSH RIFF MERCHANTS OFFER UP SEISMIC FOLLOW-UP TO DEBUT ALBUM

LAST YEAR, Swansea's Hark expanded to a four-piece in order to realise the dual guitar sound that was buzzing around frontman Jimbob Isaac's head. It was a shrewd move, and one which has served to make everything great about Hark even better. When the apocalypse finally consumes us all – no doubt hastened by the USA's Wotsit-skinned President – its distant rumble will weaken buildings and vibrate the fillings from your mouth. Yet the heft of Machinations' sludge-meets-Motörhead barrage will make the end of days sound like an old car backfiring in an empty street. A most glorious follow-up.

DOWNLOAD: Fortunes Favours The Insane.
FOR FANS OF: Baroness, Corrosion Of Conformity, Neurosis.
SIMON YOUNG

IMMOLATION

ATONEMENT *(NUCLEAR BLAST)*

KKKK

HOW TO SURVIVE 30 YEARS AS A DEATH METAL BAND: DON'T PUT OUT BAD RECORDS

LIKE ANY band that have reached album number 10, some of Immolation's releases are better than others. But, that not once have they outright sucked is a genuinely impressive feat, and Atonement is their latest volley of non-sucking sonic violence. Easily besting 2013's Kingdom Of Conspiracy, this is dark and ugly death metal for ugly minds, eerie as Hell and out for blood. Repeatedly, the word that most readily comes to mind is 'evil'. Rise The Heretics and Destructive Currents are positively drenched in it, the scything leads of Thrown To The Fire and belching harmonics of Lower likewise. If the idea behind this record is to atone for being simply 'good' in the past, then job very well done. And that's Immolation once again having an allergy to sucking. Good.

DOWNLOAD: Destructive Currents.
FOR FANS OF: Nile, Whitechapel.
DAN SLESSOR

X JAPAN are the biggest band you've probably never heard of, unless you've got an ear cocked towards Tokyo. Though not really making a mark in Europe or America at the time, by the end of the '80s, the Japanese five-piece had grown to be one of the biggest Asian bands in history – think the Japanese Guns N' Roses and you're about there in both size and style.

Even now, decades later, and with global success finally under their belts, they're still revolutionising metal in their own distinctive manner. The **WE ARE X (KKKK)** soundtrack

ISSUE 1659 FEB 25, 2017

ON THE STEREO

1 CREEPER – BLACK RAIN
Argh! This is how Creeper's album opens! Excitement. For. Creeper. Album. Barely. Containable.

2 MASTODON – SHOW YOURSELF
Mmmm, groovy. And it's one of those Mastodon songs with a big chorus. We like those ones.

3 AMY LEE – LOVE EXISTS
A massive, slushy love ballad from the Evanescence singer here. Anyone need a soundtrack for the big, important kiss scene in a rom-com? This is what you're after.

4 SIKTH – NO WISHBONES
Brit metal tech-heads SikTh are back, railing against poverty on this furious mathcore rager.

5 THE COURTESANS – MESMERISE
You want some killer, dark, punky stuff with bags of attitude? This Brit mob's for you!

ANTROPOMORPHIA

SERMON OV WRATH *(METAL BLADE)*

KKKK

DUTCH DEATH METAL THAT'S AS ACCESSIBLE AS IT IS BRILLIANT AND BRUTAL

SERMON OV Wrath opens with a relentlessly heavy barrage. But the Dutch death metal masters aren't playing it entirely by the book. As the song momentarily steps away from the gritty dirge, it opens AntropomorphiA up to a world of wild exploration. Never more so than on the epic centrepiece Crown Ov The Dead, a track as beautiful as it is pulverising. With it, and the rest of Sermon Ov Wrath, they manage to make their sound accessible without sacrificing the ominous barbarity. The balance is brilliant. The record plays with huge atmospherics at just the right moments, but at its core is driven by sheer guttural growls and guitar mastery. Offering far more than simple chugging riffs, AntropomorphiA are writing their own rules.

DOWNLOAD: Crown Ov The Dead.
FOR FANS OF: Bloodbath, Code Orange.
BEN TIPPLE

PISSED JEANS

WHY LOVE NOW *(SUB POP)*

KKK

PUNISHING PENNSYLVANIAN PUNK TYPES RELEASE FIFTH STUDIO ALBUM

MANY BANDS want to be the biggest in the world. Less common are those for whom such an aspiration is not only alien but actually downright anathema. The very name Pissed Jeans gives a clue as to which camp this Allentown quartet belong. But while it's one thing to be bloody-mindedly inaccessible to the casual listener, to do it with this much power and panache is another thing entirely. On a song such as the remorseless Worldwide Marine Asset Financial Analyst, they perform the remarkable trick of playing Black Flag-ish punk without sounding regressive or reactionary. Stranger still is Love Without Emotion, a song that is only a step away from pop, but which is translated into an atonal outing beneath inky skies. Full of weirdness and with groove to spare, this is a fascinating collection.

DOWNLOAD: I'm A Man.
FOR FANS OF: Black Flag, Orange Goblin.
IAN WINWOOD

collates some of the more well-known studio cuts and live recordings from across their career, for a documentary made about the trials and tribulations of band leader Yoshiki's life – including the emotional turmoil that followed his father's suicide early on. Opener La Venus, which has been shortlisted for Best Original Song at this year's Oscars, is a grandiose affair, with weeping violins that rain over a wistful piano ballad. The symphonic power metal of hit singles Kurenai, Dahlia and X, meanwhile, show just why this band did the impossible in breaking out of one of the most self-contained musical platforms on the planet. Most of this collection, however, focuses on the band's mid-tempo offerings, with songs like Tears and Crucify My Love investigating more of a heartfelt heaviness than the shredding guitars they built their name on. If you like Disney soundtracks as much as you like power metal, or fancy delving into the roots of the J-rock scene that spawned BABYMETAL, look no further than this retrospective.

WORDS: AMY SHARROCK

Black Sabbath

BLACK SABBATH

(VERTIGO, 1970)

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN – THE ALBUM THAT SAW FOUR BLOKES FROM BRUM GIVE BIRTH TO HEAVY METAL

THE WORLD into which Black Sabbath's debut emerged on a wet Friday 13 in February 1970 was one in which nothing quite like them had been heard before. Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and others had pushed the boundaries of rock and blues, and taken it to a heavier place, but this was just… sinister. The band had come up with the idea of playing 'scary music' to capitalise on the market for horror movies at the time, and to separate themselves from other bands on the blues circuit. The rain, bell and thunder that opens the dread-filled title-track set the tone, although amusingly this was the idea of a studio engineer tinkering with the album long after the band had left London's Regent Sound Studios, the first they heard of it was when they got the finished article back. Enamoured with this new, dark take on rock, millions bought the album, and Sabbs went from factory workers to stars in no time. They may have hated the term 'heavy metal' (in those days a slur, rather than anything to be proud of), but here was its magnificent birth. We've just seen The End of Sabbath, now let's hear about their glorious beginning…

YOU STARTED OFF IN BLUES CLUBS, WHERE A LOT OF THE MUSIC WAS WRITTEN DURING JAMS. WHAT WERE THOSE GIGS LIKE?

TONY IOMMI (*GUITAR*): "They were the sort of blues clubs where everybody sits on the floor and nods their head, that sort of stuff. We'd do a lot of covers, and we had a residency at the Star-Club in Germany for a bit, where we'd be playing for, like, five hours a night, 45-minute sets. So we'd jam and write during those, because we had so much time to fill up! Back in Birmingham, the gigs were at blues clubs and we'd do alright, but the reaction came when we started playing our own stuff, rather than covers. We'd written a couple of songs – Wicked World and Black Sabbath – and we thought we'd try them out at the blues club. So we did, and the reaction… People were in shock coming up to us afterwards saying, 'What was that?', you know. We were all proud of it because they were our own songs we'd written. The rest is history, really. It all went on from there."

THE ALBUM WAS RECORDED IN ABOUT EIGHT HOURS, BEFORE YOU HAD TO DRIVE TO A GIG IN EUROPE. WHAT WAS THE SESSION LIKE?

"We were thrilled to get the chance to make a record, but we knew nothing about recording – absolutely nothing! As far as we were concerned, you just walked into the studio, played, and left. That's what we thought you did, and that's what we did. It was as simple as that and we never thought anything of it, you know? There was no point us hanging around, because we didn't know what to do or what to say to the producer and engineer. We knew we had to go to Europe, so we played the songs as we had them live, I'd do a second guitar, Ozzy'd do the vocal, and that was it. It was done in a day, then off we went. We were doing that and off we went to Europe."

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT THE ALBUM WAS A HIT?

"We were calling home occasionally because we were over there for a month or something. So we were phoning back and finding out what was going on. In those days, of course, you had to go to a call box (*laughs*). We didn't have a lot of money to spend on phone calls, either – that was another thing – so we'd call back very rarely. And then on the way back we were in shock because the album was coming out, and then we heard it was in the charts. Blimey! We couldn't believe it, it was such a shock for us. I remember feeling very proud. I still am."

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

K!LOBBER

MU$T HAV£S

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!

This PWR BTTM jumper will turn you into a walking tongue. Don't go near any icy metal posts.
$30 (£24) Hellomerch.com

Loathe clothes with distinguishable images on the front? Then this mysterious UK band got you.
$18 (£14.43) Sharptonerecords.merchnow.com

Pro-Wrestling: EVE is the most fun wrestling promotion in London. And they make amazing T-shirts, too!
£17.99 Evewrestling.com

We've no confidence in the use of this With Confidence hoodie as a flotation device, but it will keep you warm(ish) if you fall in the sea.
$30 (£24.16) Merchnow.com

Pretend you're the girl from Green Day's Kerplunk album with this top. Gun sold separately. OBVIOUSLY.
£19.99 Greenday.warnerartists.net

FC St. Pauli – the most punk football team in Germany. Or maybe just undercover pirates. Pass us the rum!
£17.99 Impericon.com

When people read the small print, this Emmure jacket will make you look like a *really* aggressive nightclub bouncer. Going round telling people they're "not on the list" is pretty fun, so you might as well get into full character. No patting people down, though, because that's just fucking weird.
$67 (£53.92) Sharptonerecords.merchnow.com

Put your thongs, pet shark and other Aussie things in this tote. Okay maybe not the shark – they prefer to be carried in a duffel bag.
£8.99 Impericon.com

"I was made for lovin' bamboo" – that's how the famous KISS song would go if they were pandas. Sadly they're not. Gene Simmons' tongue would make light work of an ant hill, though.
£1.49 Grindstore.com

This T-shirt's called 'white house'. Don't look much like The White House to us. Stray From The Path still slay, though.
£13.99 Impericon.com

Nobody uses paper weights any more, unless it's to kill someone spur of the moment. This Day Of The Dead one doesn't look heavy enough for that.
£3.99 Grindstore.com

MAKE YOUR OWN MEDIA

Celebrate the forthcoming WSS album with this tee. They're from the North, you know.
£14.99 Impericon.com

A proper ace hardcore band from Kentucky and also something you don't want happening to your teeth.
£13.99 Impericon.com

Who lives in a house like this, doe? Oh, we weren't asking the band, just pondering.
Price TBC Doetheband.co.uk

We like to sing 'Sløtface' to the tune of '90s kids' TV show Duck Tales. Sløtface! Ohh-woo-ohhhh!
£37.35 Slotface.robotmerch.com

For the full twenty one pilots effect, this jumper must be worn with no trousers, just pants. Even in public. Thems the rules. Sorry!
$50 (£40.26) Store.twentyonepilots.com

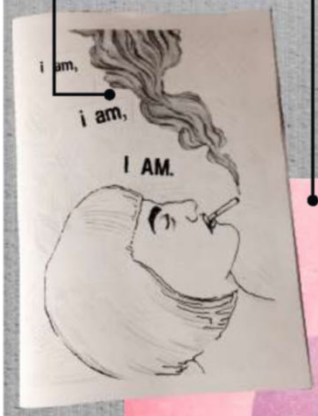
Looking around your flat thinking, 'You know what this place could use? A little more sorrow and extinction?' Then whack this bad boy up.
$20 (£16) Pallbearermerch.bigcartel.com

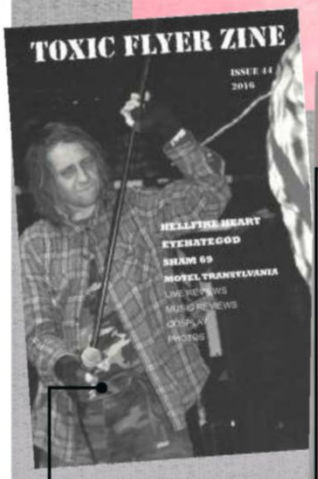
ZINES: 'CAUSE NOTHING'S MORE ADMIRABLE THAN PEOPLE CREATING STUFF JUST FOR THE LOVE OF IT

I Am, I Am, I Am is a beautifully-illustrated zine about coping with depression and self-harm. Its 18-pages contain information on medications, help lines, self-care, and a high-five from people who understand.
£2
Etsy.com

This cuter-than-a-puppy-in-pyjamas zine is the work of UK-based writer Marianne Eloise, and features emo photos, mid-2000s memories, Myspace throwbacks and even some Kerrang!. Get involved.
£4
Marianneeloise.bigcartel.com

Necronomicon is a fanzine by Necro Neil, a self-confessed manic depressive, who chronicles his life through the horror movies he watches to keep him going. Dude knows his shit, too. Well worth £1.50.
£1.50
Etsy.com





Handmade on Xerox, just like they did it in the old days. The 24 pages of underground punk and metal in Toxic Flyer Zine will be well worth getting your hands covered in ink in for.
£4.11
Etsy.com

This quarterly publication showcases the work of women worldwide via an open submission policy. That means you can't be in it, blokes. Haha! Sucks to be you!
£3
Etsy.com

We're ever-so-slightly annoyed that it's not us who made this one. Gig reviews in comic book form? A tutorial on how to mosh like BABYMETAL? This really does rock.
£3
Etsy.com

DON'T MISS

WITH CONFIDENCE

BEWARE! THESE AUSSIE POP-PUNKS MIGHT SMELL FRESH, BUT THEY'LL BREAK YOUR NOSE...

THIS IS YOUR BIGGEST UK HEADLINE TOUR TO DATE – THAT MUST FEEL PRETTY GOOD!

JAYDEN SEELEY (*VOCALS/BASS*): "Yeah, we're all really, really stoked for it! We have such a good time in the UK, and we're feeling so good playing all the songs right now. It's exciting to be heading your way again!"

HAVE YOU LEARNED ANYTHING ON THE ROAD THAT HAS MADE FOR A BETTER TOURING EXPERIENCE?

"There are a lot of quirky little things! It's a great idea to bring dryer sheets – the sheets you put in the tumble dryer so that your clothes come out smelling nice – out with you. We very quickly learned to keep some of those near the bottom of our bunks on the bus to keep them smelling nice. You're sweating every night, you don't always have the time or the opportunity to take a shower, your feet get pretty disgusting, and if you fall asleep in your bunk like that the next day it smells like absolute arsehole. So those sheets definitely keep that at bay!"

YOU HAVE SOME GREAT BANDS OPENING FOR YOU, TOO – SHOULD EVERYONE MAKE SURE THEY GET THERE EARLY ENOUGH TO CATCH THEM?

"Yeah, for sure, because we have Broadside, Safe To Say and Milestones, and I'm really excited about that. Broadside and Safe To Say were on Warped Tour with us, which is where we initially met them, and we instantly hit it off. It was funny, actually – we met Broadside on the first few days of that tour, and we were both waiting for interviews, so we got chucked in the same room. We were there, kind of awkwardly doing the 'Hey, how are you?' thing, and we got talking about Warped Tour gossip, and ended up each sharing one piece of gossip that we'd heard while there. Talking about someone sleeping with so-and-so, or this guy from this band taking a shit in someone else's bunk – you bond over that very instantly (*laughs*)! I'm very excited to have some mates along, and hopefully make some new ones with Milestones."

HOPEFULLY YOU WON'T BREAK ANY OF THEIR NOSES, LIKE YOU DID WITH AS IT IS BASSIST ALI TESTO...

"I feel so *bad!* I haven't actually told this story to anyone yet, and I think I should probably share it. So, we're good mates with the As It Is guys, and we watched their show and then they were DJing at a club later that night, so we were all hanging out. Me and Ali were having a big, happy chat, and one of my friends pops around the corner holding a water gun. I tried to dodge away from the water pistol and bent down, but it got me right in the face, so I sprung up very quickly, and apparently Ali's nose was right above my head. I hit him directly in the nose, and – no joke – it just starts *pissing out* blood! It was all over the floor – it looked like someone had turned a tap on! I freaked out, saying 'I'm so, so sorry!' and trying to get a towel and have him put his head up. So, yeah, that's a story."

"I FEEL SO BAD ABOUT BREAKING AS IT IS' ALI'S NOSE!"
JAYDEN SEELEY

OUCH. WHAT ELSE DO YOU GUYS HAVE GOING ON BEYOND THESE DATES?

"This year's a very, very busy one for us, and we're organising the touring schedule for the rest of the year right now. After our headliner we're going to the USA to tour with State Champs, which will be really fun. If everything goes to plan we're hoping on getting into the studio later this year and working on some new music for everybody."

DATES: London Camden Underworld February 24, Southampton Joiners 25, Bristol Exchange 26, Leeds Key Club 28, Manchester Sound Control March 1, Glasgow King Tut's 2, Newcastle Think Tank? 3, Nottingham Basement 4, Birmingham Asylum 5, Norwich Epic Studios 6. Support: Broadside, Safe To Say, Milestones.

WORDS: DAN SLESSOR **PHOTO:** AMY HARRIS

YOUR WEEK!

KERRANG! DAY FEBRUARY 22

BIRMINGHAM Touché Amoré, Angel Du$t, Departures (O2 Academy3 Birmingham)
LONDON Pinegrove (Scala)
MANCHESTER Thought Forms, Dead Sea Apes, Schoolhouse (Soup Kitchen)
NEWCASTLE Wednesday 13 (University Students' Union)
NOTTINGHAM Hellions, Skies in Motion, Acres (Rescue Rooms)

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23

GLASGOW Hellions, Acres (Garage Attic)
GLASGOW Wednesday 13 (Cathouse)
LONDON Band Of Horses (Troxy)
LONDON Touché Amoré, Angel Du$t, Departures (O2 Academy Islington)
LONDON The Wytches (Brixton Jamm)
MANCHESTER Pinegrove (Deaf Institute)
NORWICH Deaf Havana, Dinosaur Pile-Up, Dead! (UEA)

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 24

BIRMINGHAM Sum 41 (O2 Academy Birmingham)
GLASGOW Pinegrove (Stereo)
LEEDS Wednesday 13 (Key Club)
LONDON Breath In The Silence (Surya)
LONDON Deaf Havana, Dinosaur Pile-Up, DEAD! (O2 Forum, Kentish Town)
LONDON With Confidence, Broadside, Safe To Say, Milestones (Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER Osiah (Satan's Hollow)
NEWCASTLE Hellions, Acres (Jumpin' Jack's)
NOTTINGHAM VANT (Rescue Rooms)
STOKE Discharge (Underground)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25

BIRMINGHAM Pinegrove (Mama Roux's)
LEEDS Hellions, Acres (Key Club)
LEEDS VANT, Dead! (Wardrobe)
LONDON Youth Of Today, American Nightmare, Trash Talk, Wolf X Down (Togetherfest @ Electric Ballroom, Camden)
MANCHESTER Sum 41 (Academy)
NOTTINGHAM Wednesday 13 (Rescue Rooms)
PLYMOUTH Osiah (Underground)
SOUTHAMPTON With Confidence, Safe To Say, Broadside, Milestones (Joiners)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26

BRISTOL With Confidence, Safe To Say, Broadside, Milestones (Exchange)
CAMBRIDGE Pinegrove (Portland Arms)
LEEDS Sum 41 (O2 Academy Leeds)
MANCHESTER Trash Talk, Youth Man (Rebellion)
MANCHESTER Wednesday 13 (Ruby Lounge)
SOUTHAMPTON Hellions (Joiners)
SWINDON Osiah, Harbinger, Diabolus, Depravity (Victoria)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Loathe

We're not sure what they want the black paint for, but if your venues end up with black walls, you'll know.

LOATHE

Stage towels
Bottled water
Bread
Butter
Hummus
Sandwich filler
Fruit
Black paint
Hessian sacks

GENERAL ADMISSION

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY

INKOMBAT! PIERCE THE VEIL VS. A DAY TO REMEMBER

KERRANG! TV – FEBRUARY 27, 6PM

ADTR are used to winning kombats – they had a Victory against their old label – so the Pierce The Veil guys have no chance. Sorry, dudes.

METALLICA WITH LADY GAGA: LIVE AT THE GRAMMYS

KERRANG.COM

What happens when metal royalty and a pop superstar unite? A minute of James Hetfield's mic not being turned on, Metallica not being introduced and a duet that actually ends up blowing the GRAMMYs away with pure fire!

SLEEPING WITH SIRENS' KICK-ASS ROCK ANTHEMS: TOP 20

KERRANG! TV – FEBRUARY 22, 7PM

K! TV have given Sleeping With Sirens free reign for two hours on this one. Let's hope that Kellin Quinn actually comes out of his hotel room this time, instead of locking himself in there to complete the new Resident Evil.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27

BIRMINGHAM The Browning (Flapper)
MANCHESTER Apocalyptica (Bridgewater Hall)
PLYMOUTH Hellions, Acres (Underground)

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28

BRISTOL The Answer (Fleece)
CARDIFF Hellions, Acres (Fuel)
EDINBURGH Apocalyptica (Queens Hall)
GLASGOW Sum 41 (Barrowland)
LEEDS Trash Talk, Youth Man (Temple Of Boom)
LEEDS With Confidence, Broadside, Safe To Say, Milestones (Key Club)
MANCHESTER The Browning, It Lies Within, Blessing A Curse (Rebellion)
MANCHESTER Kreator, Sepultura (Academy)
SOUTHAMPTON Basement (Joiners)
YORK The Wytches (Crescent)

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: SLASHING DEATH, A FESTIVAL OUTSIDE GDANSK, 1987

TRYING TO GET INTO A POLISH THRASH FESTIVAL BUT DON'T HAVE A TICKET? ALL YOU NEED ARE YOUR PARENTS AND A FENCE...

ADAM 'NERGAL' DARSKI, BEHEMOTH/ME AND THAT MAN

"There was this heavy metal festival in Poland in 1987 when I was 11 years old. It was held in a small town next to Gdansk where I lived, and I asked my parents to take me. It was in this park, so my parents didn't even need to buy me a ticket, I just asked them to leave me outside the fence, because I could see through it to the stage. I told them to go for a walk and leave me there for an hour, and I just walked around taking pictures with my camera, watching three or four bands and just getting into it and soaking up the atmosphere.

"I was super-young, so I don't remember too much about exactly which bands were on the bill, but there was a lot of old thrash bands from the '80s like Slashing Death and Exekutor – really legendary thrash bands in Europe. I remember I was like a kid in a toy store. I played guitar before that – I had a garage band. The first band I drew a logo of were called Centaur, then they were called Hypnos Death, then Behemoth! It was super-unprofessional! But seeing those bands that day was just mind-blowing and really made me want to do something similar."

SLASHING DEATH

We couldn't find a picture of this gig, so here is a corncrake, a wild bird indigenous to Poland. In Polish, they're called 'derkacz zwyczajny'. Don't say we never teach you anything...

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

MY VENUE

ENGINE ROOMS
SOUTHAMPTON

WEST QUAY, HARBOUR PARADE, SOUTHAMPTON, SO15 1GZ

KAI HARRIS, IN-HOUSE PROMOTER

COULD YOU TELL US A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ENGINE ROOMS?

"The venue started out as a roller-disco and ceroc [jive dancing] hall called Mo' Club about a decade ago. I put a few shows into the space as an independent promoter to test it out, the first-ever live show there was for a little Southampton band called Bury Tomorrow who were just becoming known on the national circuit. The MJR Group acquired the venue in 2015 and I jumped on board as In-House Promoter shortly after."

WHY IS THE VENUE SO IMPORTANT TO SOUTHAMPTON?

"I only really started promoting shows to get Southampton on the national live music map, especially for rock and metal. Engine Rooms is the culmination of 20 years of working towards that goal and it's an honour to be working with such a great team, to be able to achieve this. I think we easily have the best and most varied programming of any venue in the south of England for a venue of our size, and of course the most hard rockin'."

IT HAS BEEN USED FOR ROLLER-DISCO NIGHTS, TOO – IS THAT STILL A REGULAR THING?

"Yes, we still regularly host roller-discos. Perhaps we should start a heavy metal one? We also host the annual 'Reunion' night, which is probably the biggest rock and metal club in the south of England."

THE VENUE HAS HAD ITS FAIR SHARE OF ROCK SHOWS OVER THE YEARS. COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT THE BEST ONES?

"There's been so many good rock and metal shows, it's hard to pick. Obituary, Exodus and Prong on one bill, just because it's Obituary, Exodus and Prong! Beartooth put on an amazing sold-out show last December – it's always fantastic to see bands work their way up through Southampton's awesome smaller rooms like Joiners and Talking Heads to bigger shows in our city. On a similar note it was great to see Bury Tomorrow return and pack the place out to the rafters, since they were the first band I ever promoted here and I've been following their career since they were barely teenagers. Devin Townsend, Fear Factory, Architects, Don Broco, Lower Than Atlantis – I could go on and on."

DO YOU HAVE MANY PLANS IN PLACE FOR THE FUTURE OF THE ENGINE ROOMS?

"We'd love to make the place a little bigger and improve the facilities for both artists and punters, in the mean time we'll just keep on planning more huge shows for Southampton."

FINALLY, WHAT CHALLENGES ARE YOU FACING IN 2017?

"The same as all venues, really – having to keep our calendar of events fresh, varied and packed with profile acts in the face of diminishing crowds and higher overheads. It's a tough old game."

PHOTO: HARRY HARRIS

ALOUD.COM
buy your tickets from www.aloud.com

BOOKING NOW

2000TREES FESTIVAL
Line-up: Slaves, Nothing But Thieves, Pulled Apart By Horses, Jamie Lenman, Feed The Rhino, Dinosaur Pile-Up, Muncie Girls, Black Foxxes, Grumble Bee, SHVPES, Bad Sign, Bellevue Days, Weirds, Personal Best, Cassels, Doe, Fizzy Blood, Sœur, John Matranga, Giants, Tigercub, Away Days, Apologies, I Have None, The St. Pierre Snake Invasion, Louise Distras, Milestones, Polary, Making Monsters, wars, Vukovi, Straight Lines, Steven Battelle, Petrol Girls, The One Hundred, Queen Kwong, Area 11, Greywind, Strange Bones. Cheltenham Upcote Farm July 6 – 8.

AGAINST THE CURRENT
Brighton Haunt March 8, Norwich Epic Studios 9, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 10, Edinburgh Liquid Room 12, Sheffield Leadmill 13, Cardiff Globe 14, London Bush Hall 17.

ALL TIME LOW
London Eventim Apollo March 10, Cardiff Great Hall 11, Southampton Guildhall 13, Cambridge Corn Exchange 14, O2 Academy Leeds 15, O2 Academy Birmingham 16, Liverpool Guild Of Students 18, Belfast Ulster Hall 19, Dublin Olympia 20, O2 Academy Bristol 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 23, O2 Academy Sheffield 24, O2 Academy Newcastle 25, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 27, O2 Academy Glasgow 28, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR 30, London O2 Academy Brixton 31. Support: SWMRS, Waterparks.

APOCALYPTICA
Manchester Bridgewater Hall February 27, Edinburgh Queen's Hall 28, London Royal Festival Hall March 1.

ARCTANGENT
Line-up: Explosions In The Sky, Converge, TesseracT, SikTh, Employed To Serve and more! Bristol Fernhill Farm August 17 – 19.

ATTILA
Glasgow Garage April 1, Leeds Key Club 2, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 3, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 4, Bristol Marble Factory 5, Manchester Academy II 6, London Camden Electric Ballroom 7, Southampton Engine Rooms 9.

AUGUST BURNS RED
London Camden Underworld July 28, Bristol Fleece 29, Manchester Sound Control 30.

BASEMENT
Southampton Joiners February 28 – March 1, London Bush Hall 2 – 3, Manchester Deaf Institute 5 – 6, Glasgow King Tut's 7 – 8, Leeds Key Club 9 – 10. Support: Higher Power.

BLINK-182
Cardiff Motorpoint Arena July 3, Nottingham Motorpoint Arena 4, Leeds First Direct Arena 5, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 7, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 9, Glasgow SSE Hydro 11, Manchester Arena 14, Liverpool Echo Arena 15, Bournemouth International Centre 17, London O2 Arena 19 – 20. Support: Frank Turner.

BLOODSTOCK FESTIVAL
Line-up: Amon Amarth, Megadeth, Blind Guardian, Testament, Possessed, Hatebreed, Hell, Whitechapel, Decapitated, Brujeria, Obituary, Skindred, Annihilator, Municipal Waste. Derbyshire Catton Park August 10 – 13.

BLOOD YOUTH
Glasgow Garage Attic April 8, Leeds Key Club 9, London Boston Music Room 10. Support: Loathe, Holding Absence (London and Leeds only).

BRITISH SUMMER TIME
Line-up: Green Day, Rancid, Gogol Bordello, The Hives, The Living End, Beach Slang, SWMRS, Public Access T.V., Sunflower Bean. London Hyde Park July 1.

BURY TOMORROW
O2 Institute Birmingham April 14, O2 Ritz Manchester 15, Glasgow Garage 16, Newcastle Riverside 17, Leeds Stylus 19, Nottingham Rock City 20, Cardiff Y Plas 21, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 22. Support: Crossfaith, Black Peaks, Any Given Day.

COUNTERFEIT
Leeds Key Club April 18, Manchester Academy III 19, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 20, Glasgow Stereo 21, Nottingham Rock City Basement 22, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 23, Bristol Fleece 25, London Camden Underworld 26, Southampton Joiners 28, Brighton Haunt 29. Support: Tigress, Faux.

CREEPER
Manchester Academy II March 25, Glasgow Garage 26, Newcastle University 27, Leeds Stylus 28, London Camden Electric Ballroom 30, Southampton 1865 31, O2 Institute 2 Birmingham April 1, Cardiff Tramshed 2. Support: Milk Teeth, Energy, Puppy.

CROWBAR
O2 Institute Birmingham March 16, Sheffield Plug 17, Glasgow King Tut's 18, Manchester Academy3 19, London Dome Tufnell Park 20, Dublin Voodoo Lounge 21, Belfast Limelight II 22, Reading Sub89 23, Southampton Engine Rooms 24, Bristol Bierkeller 25.

DEFTONES
London Alexandra Palace May 5, O2 Apollo Manchester 6, Glasgow SECC 7. Support: AFI.

DESCENDENTS
London O2 Academy Brixton June 4.

DESERTFEST
Line-up: Turbonegro, Samsara Blues Experiment, The Picturebooks, Satan's Satyrs, Yuri Gagarin, Vodun, Mammoth Storm, Elephant Tree, Sleep. London Camden April 28 – 30.

DEVIL SOLD HIS SOUL
O2 ABC2 Glasgow April 14, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 15, Bristol Thekla 21, London Boston Music Room 29.

DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL
Line-up: System Of A Down, Biffy Clyro, Aerosmith, Slayer, Prophets Of Rage, Rob Zombie, AFI, Five Finger Death Punch, Of Mice & Men, Sleeping With Sirens, Fozzy, Every Time I Die, Simple Plan, Motionless In White, The Story So Far, Pierce The Veil, Alter Bridge, Airbourne, Opeth, Clutch, Sum 41, Good Charlotte, Issues, Ministry, Mastodon, DevilDriver, Coheed And Cambria, Four Year Strong, A Day To Remember, Steel Panther, Northlane, State Champs, As it Is and loads more! Derby Donington Park June 9 – 11.

EVANESCENCE
London Eventim Apollo June 13 – 14.

EVAROSE
O2 Academy Oxford March 4, Southampton Joiners 5, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 6, Dundee Redd Suite 7, Glasgow Broadcast 8, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 9, Manchester Zoo 10, London O2 Academy2 Islington 11. Support: Veridian.

FAT LIP FESTIVAL
Line-up: Young Guns, Empire, Feed The Rhino, Straight Lines, WSTR, Blood Youth, SHVPES, As Lions, When We Were Wolves, Foes. Bristol The Lanes and Bierkeller July 29.

FORT FEST
Line-up: Fort Hope, Forever Still, Our Hollow, Our Home, Grumble Bee, Eva Plays Dead, The Ghost Riders In The Sky and loads more! Bedfordshire Thurleigh August 4 – 6.

FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES
Norwich Waterfront March 16, Manchester Academy II 17, Newcastle Riverside 18, Glasgow Saint Luke's 19, Belfast Oh Yeah Music Centre 21, Dublin Academy II 22, Leeds Stylus 24, Birmingham Asylum 25, Cardiff Globe 26, Exeter Phoenix 27, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 29, London Camden KOKO 30.

GHOST
Norwich UEA March 24, Cardiff Great Hall 25, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 26, O2 Academy Leeds 28, O2 ABC Glasgow 29, O2 Apollo Manchester 31, O2 Academy Birmingham April 1, Brighton Dome 2.

GOJIRA
O2 Academy Birmingham March 11, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 12, Manchester Academy 14, O2 Academy Newcastle 15, O2 Academy Leeds 16, O2 ABC Glasgow 17, O2 Academy Bristol 18. Support: Code Orange.

GREEN DAY
Sheffield Arena July 3, Glasgow Bellahouston Park 4. Support: Rancid.

GUNS N' ROSES
London Stadium June 16 – 17.

HAND MADE FESTIVAL
Line-up: Twin Atlantic, Pulled Apart By Horses, Tigercub, Muncie Girls, Puppy. O2 Academy Leicester April 29 – 30.

HEAVY SCOTLAND
Line-up: Arch Enemy, Dyscarnate, Sodomized Cadaver, Disposable, Behemoth, Grave, Shiraz Lane, Centrilia. Edinburgh Corn Exchange April 1 – 2.

HELLIONS
Nottingham Red Room February 22, Glasgow Garage Attic 23, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 24, Leeds Key Club

JUST ANNOUNCED

AMERICAN FOOTBALL
Brighton Concorde II September 1, Manchester Albert Hall 2, Edinburgh Summerhall 3, Dublin Button Factory 4.

AS LIONS
London Boston Arms March 22.

BLOODSTOCK FESTIVAL
Latest additions: Arch Enemy, Chelsea Grin, ONI.

THE LOUNGE KITTENS
Oxford Bullingdon April 20, London Dingwalls 21, Liverpool Arts Club 2 22, Norwich Waterfront Studio 26, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 27, York Fibbers 28, Glasgow Garage Attic 29, Sheffield Leadmill 30.

NATIVES
Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach June 12, Manchester Deaf Institute 14.

NEW FOUND GLORY
Extra dates added: Cardiff TramShed September 20, O2 Academy Oxford 21, Norwich UEA 22, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 23, Portsmouth Pyramids 25.

OCEANS ATE ALASKA
Plymouth Underground June 15, Bridgend Hobos 16, Manchester Satans Hollow 17, Edinburgh Opium 18, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 19, Northampton Roadmender 20, Southampton Joiners 21. Support: Napoleon.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL
Latest additions: Deaf Havana, Frank Iero & The Patience, We Are The Ocean, The Maine, Crime In Stereo, Sorority Noise, Too Close To Touch, WSTR, Seaway, Boston Manor, Stray From The Path.

TECH FEST
Latest additions: Chelsea Grin, The Faceless, Beyond Creation, Igorr, Uneven Structure, Humanity's Last Breath, Exivious, Panzerballett, Persefone, DSME, Virvum, Ghost Iris, James Norbert Ivanyi, Sleep Token, Dreamwaves.

PVRIS
London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire May 4.

PHOTO: IAN COLLINS

25, Southampton Joiners 26, Plymouth Underground 27, Cardiff Fuel 28. Support: Acres.

HIGHLY SUSPECT
Glasgow Saint Luke's March 4, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 6, Manchester Sound Control 7, London Camden KOKO 9.

HUNDREDTH
London Camden Underworld March 26, Birmingham Flapper 27, Dundee Beat Generator Live 28, Glasgow Attic 29, Leeds Key Club 30, Bournemouth Anvil 31. Support: Landscapes, Silent Planet.

IMPERICON FESTIVAL
Line-up: Thy Art Is Murder, Being As An Ocean, Miss May I, In Hearts Wake. Manchester Academy April 17.

IRON MAIDEN
Nottingham Motorpoint Arena May 4, Manchester Arena 8, Sheffield Arena 10, Leeds First Direct Arena 11, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 14, Glasgow SSE Hydro 16, Aberdeen GE Oil & Gas Arena 17, Liverpool Echo Arena 20, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 21, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 24, London O2 Arena 27. Support: Shinedown.

JAMIE LENMAN
O2 Institute 3 Birmingham April 27, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 28, Bristol Thekla 29, Manchester Sound Control May 1, London Scala 2, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 4, Leeds Key Club 5, Glasgow King Tut's 6.

JAPANDROIDS
O2 Institute Birmingham April 28, Glasgow Garage 20, Leeds Stylus May 1, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 2, Manchester Gorilla 4, Brighton Concorde II 5, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 6.

KATAKLYSM
London O2 Academy Islington October 10. Support: Graveworm.

KISS
Glasgow SSE Hydro May 27, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 28, Manchester Arena 30, London O2 Arena 31.

LOWER THAN ATLANTIS
Norwich UEA March 9, O2 Academy Birmingham 10, Manchester Academy 11, O2 Academy Leeds 13, O2 Academy Newcastle 14, O2 ABC Glasgow 15, London O2 Academy Brixton 17, Cardiff Great Hall 18. Support: Young Guns, Hands Like Houses, ROAM.

MADINA LAKE
London O2 Academy Islington May 26, Manchester Sound Control 30, Glasgow King Tut's 31. Support: Lacey.

MALLORY KNOX
O2 Academy Bristol March 20, Cardiff TramShed 21, Norwich UEA 22, O2 Institute Birmingham 24, Sheffield Leadmill 25, Cambridge Corn Exchange 26, Aberdeen Garage 28, Edinburgh Liquid Room 29, Newcastle University 31, O2 Academy Liverpool April 1, Portsmouth Pyramids 2, O2 Academy Oxford 4, London Camden KOKO 5 – 6. Support: Lonely The Brave, Fatherson.

MAYHEM
London Camden Electric Ballroom March 29, Manchester Club Academy 30, Dublin Academy 31, Glasgow Lords Of The Land April 1.

THE MENZINGERS
Southampton Talking Heads April 18, London Camden KOKO 19, Bristol Bierkeller 20, Manchester Academy II 21, Glasgow Oran Mor 22, Derby Venue 23, Norwich Epic Studios 24. Support: The Flatliners, The Dirty Nil.

MONSTER TRUCK
Belfast Limelight II March 13, Dublin Academy II 14, Bristol Marble Factory 15, O2 Institute Birmingham 17, Manchester Club Academy 18, Glasgow King Tut's 19, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 21, London Camden Electric Ballroom 22.

NAPALM DEATH
O2 Institute Birmingham May 9, Manchester Rebellion 11, London Camden Electric Ballroom 12. Support: Brujeria, Iron Reagan.

NEW FOUND GLORY
O2 ABC Glasgow September 27, O2 Academy Newcastle 28, Manchester Academy 29, O2 Academy Birmingham 30, O2 Academy Leeds October 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, O2 Academy Bristol 5, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 6, London Camden Electric Ballroom 7, London Camden Underworld 8.

THE ONE HUNDRED
Southampton Joiners May 1, Bath Moles 3, Plymouth Underground 4, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 5, Nottingham Rock City Basement 6, Glasgow Garage 8, Leeds Key Club 9, Birmingham Asylum 10, London Boston Music Room 11, Manchester Rebellion 13.

OUTBREAK FEST
Line-up: Gorilla Biscuits, Turning Point, Title Fight, Breakdown, Broken Teeth, Fury, Freedom, The Flex and more. Leeds Canal Mills April 19 – 30.

PALLBEARER
London Camden Underworld April 6, Bristol Thekla 8, Manchester Ruby Lounge 9.

PARKWAY DRIVE
London O2 Academy Brixton April 8, Nottingham Rock City 9, O2 Academy Leeds 10, Cardiff University Great Hall 11. Support: Asking Alexandria, Stick To Your Guns.

PINEGROVE
London King's Cross Scala February 22, Manchester Deaf Institute 23, Glasgow Stereo 24, Birmingham Mama Roux's 25, Cambridge Portland Arms 26, Norwich Epic Studios 28, Leeds Brudenell Social Club March 1, Brighton Haunt 2.

PRIMUS
London Camden Roundhouse June 20.

PWR BTTM
Dublin Workmans Club April 10, Manchester Deaf Institute 11, Sheffield Harley 12, Birmingham Hare & Hounds 13, Glasgow CCA 15, Bristol Exchange 16, Brighton Haunt 17, London Islington Garage 18.

RAMBLIN' MAN FAIR
Line-up: ZZ Top, Monster Truck, Jared James Nichols, Kansas and more. Maidstone Mote Park July 29 – 30.

READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL
Line-up: Muse, At The Drive-In, Architects, Against The Current, The Amity Affliction, Korn, Jimmy Eat World, While She Sleeps. Reading Richfield Avenue, Leeds Bramham Park August 25 – 27.

REAL FRIENDS
Manchester Club Academy April 6, Birmingham Asylum 7, Newcastle Riverside 9, Glasgow Saint Luke's 10, Leeds Stylus 11, Bristol Thekla 13, Norwich Epic Studios 14, Southampton Engine Rooms 15, London Camden Electric Ballroom 16. Support: Can't Swim, Microwave.

RITCHIE BLACKMORE'S RAINBOW
Manchester Arena June 22, Glasgow SSE Hydro 25, Birmingham Genting Arena 28.

RITUAL FESTIVAL
Line-up: Ihsahn, All Pigs Must Die, Anaal Nathrakh, Miser, Bossk. Leeds Belgrave Music Hall April 8.

ROYAL REPUBLIC
Glasgow Garage March 30, Manchester Academy II 31, London Camden Electric Ballroom April 1.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL
Line-up: Enter Shikari, Don Broco, Bowling For Soup, Reel Big Fish, Less Than Jake, Cute Is What We Aim For, We The Kings, Beartooth, Tonight Alive, Against Me!, The Bronx, Goldfinger, Mad Caddies, The Movielife, Trophy Eyes, Like Pacific. Birmingham NEC May 27, Leeds City Centre 28, Hatfield Forum 29.

STATE CHAMPS
Southampton Engine Rooms March 9, O2 Academy Bristol 10, O2 Ritz Manchester 11, Newcastle Riverside 13, Glasgow Garage 14, Leeds Beckett University 16, O2 Institute Birmingham 17, London O2 Kentish Town Forum 18.

STONE FREE FESTIVAL
Line-up: Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow. London O2 Arena June 17 – 18.

SUM 41
O2 Academy Birmingham February 24, Manchester Academy 25, O2 Academy Leeds 26, Glasgow Barrowlands 28, London O2 Academy Brixton March 2, O2 Academy Bristol 3, Nottingham Rock City, O2 Guildhall Southampton 6.

TECH FEST
Line-up: The Black Dahlia Murder, Obscura, Aborted, The Arusha Accord, Hacktivist, Ingested, The Algorithm, Oceans Ate Alaska, Dyscarnate, Carcer City, Exist Immortal, Sarah Longfield, Alaska, The Fine Constant, Within Destruction, Aenimus, Toska, The Royal, Hieroglyph, FR:CTRD, Fraktions, Nycosia. Newark Showground July 6 – 11.

THRICE
London Camden KOKO April 27, Nottingham Rock City 28.

TOGETHERFEST
Line-up: Youth Of Today, American Nightmare, Trash Talk, Vanishing Life, Wolf Down. London Electric Ballroom Camden February 25.

TRNSMT FESTIVAL
Line-up: Biffy Clyro, Twin Atlantic, Circa Waves. Glasgow Green July 7 – 9.

UNDERØATH
O2 Ritz Manchester May 1, Dublin Academy 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, O2 ABC Glasgow 4, O2 Academy Newcastle 5, O2 Institute Birmingham 6, Leeds Beckett University 8, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 9, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR UEA 10, O2 Academy Bristol 11.

WE ARE THE OCEAN
Glasgow Cathouse March 22, Manchester Sound Control 23, London Tufnell Park Dome 24.

WHILE SHE SLEEPS
York Fibbers April 20, London Tufnell Park Dome 22 – 23, Brighton Concorde II 25, Southampton Talking Heads 26, O2 Academy2 Oxford 27, Bristol Fleece 28, Manchester Academy II 29, Dublin Academy May 1, Belfast Oh Yeah Centre 2, Liverpool Arts Club 3, Stoke Sugarmill 5, Norwich Waterfront 6, Newcastle Riverside 8, Glasgow Garage 9, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 10, Birmingham Asylum 12, Leeds Stylus 13.

YOU ME AT SIX
O2 Academy Newcastle April 3, Plymouth Pavilions 5, Blackburn King George's Hall 6, Doncaster Dome 7, O2 Academy Birmingham 10, Bournemouth Solent Hall 11, Glasgow SECC 13, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 14, London Alexandra Palace 15. Support: Tonight Alive, Black Foxxes.

LOVE
MUSIC
HELP
MUSICIANS UK
Manic depression stopped me from playing to the point of getting rid of my guitar to pay for somewhere to live.
Help Musicians UK got me back on my feet. I dread to think where I would be without them.
We helped Matt when a crisis stopped him from performing. Help us help musicians.
Donate at helpmusicians.org.uk
020 7239 9100
Backing musicians throughout their careers.
Registered Charity No. 228089.

To Advertise in

KERRANG!

Call ROSS on

01733 366201

Email: ross.odell@bauermedia.co.uk

WE ARE GIVING AWAY

100 T-SHIRTS

PRINTED WITH YOUR LOGO/DESIGN

FREE OF CHARGE!

Head to our Facebook page now to enter the prize draw!

Hurry, ends 28th February!

/screensprinting

USE COUPON CODE KERRANG! FOR AN EXCLUSIVE 25% OFF! ALL ONLINE ORDERS

www.screensprinting.co.uk

10 Years being the UK's biggest and best rock 'n' metal store

AC/DC to ZEPPELIN

THE HOME OF CLASSIC, RARE, IMPORTED AND HARD-TO-FIND ROCK 'N' METAL TEES AND MERCH

LOUD CLOTHING.COM

SAME-DAY DESPATCH | NEXT DAY DELIVERY OPTION | TOP-RATED CUSTOMER SERVICE | 30 DAY RETURNS

NEXT DAY SHIPPING AVAILABLE TO UK CUSTOMERS ORDERING WEEKENDS BEFORE 1PM.. SAME-DAY DESPATCH ON ORDERS PLACED BEFORE 1PM.

To advertise call: Ross Odell on 01733 366201. e.mail Ross.oDell@bauermedia.co.uk

NEXT WEEK
ON SALE MARCH 01

THE RETURN

LINKIN PARK. THE COMEBACK INTERVIEW. ONLY IN KERRANG!

EDITORIAL

IF YOU WERE GOING TO START A FANZINE, WHAT WOULD YOU CALL IT AND WHAT WOULD IT BE ABOUT?

EDITOR: James McMahon *(Title: I JUST WANT ALL OF IT IN MY FACE. Subject: sushi)*
ART EDITOR: Steve Beech *(Photocopied version of the internet)*
ACTING DEPUTY EDITOR: Sam Coare *(MASCOT BRAWLS, detailing the best times that sports mascots have scrapped with each other)*
ASSOCIATE EDITOR (REVIEWS): Nick Ruskell *(TOTAL CULT, and it would be exclusively about cult bands, and The Cult)*
DEPUTY ART EDITOR: Matt Dykzeul *(Peanut Buttered – a zine with ONLY peanut butter-based recipes)*
ACTING ASSOCIATE EDITOR (PRODUCTION): Emily Carter *(Chickpea Life – in honour of all things falafel and hummus-related)*
LISTINGS EDITOR: James Hingle *(SPICE LORD – a fanzine dedicated to Ainsley Harriott, the meme years)*
CONTRIBUTING ED: Katie Parsons *(It would be called Pen-sive – musings on the world of rainbow stationery)*

CONTRIBUTORS: Matt Allen, Steve Beebee, Paul Brannigan, Jessica Bridgeman, Ryan De Freitas, Cecilia Dinwoodie, Hannah Ewens, George Garner, James Hickie, Sam Law, Alistair Lawrence, James MacKinnon, Amit Sharma, Tom Shepherd, Dan Slessor, Mark Sutherland, Olly Thomas, Ben Tipple, Paul Travers, Jennyfer J. Walker, Ian Winwood, Rod Yates, Simon Young, Ray Zell.

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Tom Barnes, David Bergman, Lindsey Byrnes, Chris Casey, Ian Collins, Carrie Davenport, Andy Ford, Andy Gallagher, Paul Harries, Jeremy Harris, Lisa Johnson, Andrew Lipovsky, Ashley Maile, Tom Martin, Martin Philbey, Andrew Timms, Neil Visel, Dave Willis.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: William T. Jack *(A fanzine about J D Wetherspoon – as yet untitled)*, Jennyfer J. Walker *(Nine Inch Nails – an exploration of rockstars with disgustingly long fingernails)*.

SCARLET BORG: Scarlet. Borg.

INTERN OF THE WEEK: Hannah Abrey. For all work experience opportunities, check out GoThinkBig.co.uk.

KERRANG!
T: 020 7295 5000
E: FEEDBACK@KERRANG.COM
W: KERRANG.COM
Available on the App Store | Google play

SUITS

MARKETING
MARKETING MANAGER: Ally Johnstone
SYNDICATION INTERNATIONAL CONTENT EXECUTIVE: Ryan Chambers (01733 468561 Ryan.chambers@bauermedia.co.uk)
IFA (+31 20 664 5324 Info@ifa-amsterdam.com)

EVENTS
EVENT DIRECTOR: Helen Scott
SENIOR EVENT PRODUCER: Emily Bramfitt
EVENTS EXECUTIVE: Phoebe James
ACCOUNT MANAGER: Sianne Young

ADVERTISING
TELEPHONE: 020 7295 5474
GROUP MD ADVERTISING: Abby Carvosso
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO ABBY CARVOSSO: Alison Meadley (020 7295 5502)
HEAD OF MAGAZINE MEDIA: Clare Chamberlain
GROUP COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR: Simon Kilby
MUSIC MANAGER: Joel Stephan
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS MANAGER: Rick Williams
HEAD OF MAGAZINE BRANDS: Rachel Flower
HEAD OF MUSIC: Neil Mcsteen
SENIOR CREATIVE SOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE: Keith Hillman
REGIONAL ADVERTISING: Katherine Brown
CLASSIFIED SALES EXECUTIVE: Mitchell Coulter
CLASSIFIED SALES MANAGER: Karen Gardiner
INSERTS MANAGER: Simon Buckenham
AD PRODUCTION MANAGER: Helen Mear
HEAD OF CREATIVE CONTENT: Jennie Mitchener
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS ART DIRECTOR: Jon Creswell

PRODUCTION
MANAGER: Alex Brook
AD PRODUCTION MANAGER: Jackie Doran
GROUP AD PRODUCTION MANAGER: Zoe Bellamy
DISTRIBUTION: Frontline (01733 555161)
PRINTING: PCP

REALLY IMPORTANT PEOPLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Paul Keenan
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO PAUL KEENAN: Emma Knowles
GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR: Rob Munro-Hall
PUBLISHING DIRECTOR: Patrick Horton
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: Phil Alexander
BUSINESS ANALYST: Natalie Talbot

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BACK ISSUES:
For the latest subscription offers and back issues, call +44 (0)1858 438884. Email – bauer@subscription.co.uk. Kerrang!, ISSN 0262-6624 is published 51 times a year by Bauer Consumer Media Limited, a company registered in England and Wales with company number 01176085, registered address Media House, Peterborough Business Park, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA. Airfreight and mailing in the USA by agent named Air Business Ltd, c/o Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica NY 11431.

U.S. Postmaster: send address changes to Kerrang!, Air Business Ltd, c/o Worldnet Shipping Inc., 156-15, 146th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Jamaica, NY 11434, USA. Subscription records are maintained at Bauer Media Subscriptions, CDS Global, Tower House, Sovereign Park, Lathkill Street, Market Harborough, Leicester, LE16 9EF, United Kingdom. Air Business Ltd is acting as our mailing agent.

COMPLAINTS:
Bauer Consumer Media Limited is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (Ipso.co.uk) and endeavours to respond to and resolve your concerns quickly. Our Editorial Complaints Policy (including full details of how to contact us about editorial complaints and IPSO's contact details) can be found at Bauermediacomplaints.co.uk. Our email address for editorial complaints covered by the Editorial Complaints Policy is complaints@bauermedia.co.uk.

BAUER

recycle
When you have finished with this magazine please recycle it.

All views and opinions expressed by our interviewees are those of the artist or band and not necessarily Kerrang!'s.

THE ULTIMATE ROCKSTAR TEST

CHAD GILBERT
NEW FOUND GLORY

THE POP-PUNK RIFF-KING MINGLES WITH HOLLYWOOD'S ELITE. BUT DOES THAT MAKE HIM A HELL-RAISER?

ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INJURED IN THE NAME OF ROCK?

"A few years ago I was electrocuted onstage. I went to grab my microphone and I just remember feeling a jolt of pain from my head to my feet, falling over, and then my friends waking me up. I was laying on the couch in the dressing room, yelling at the band because they stopped the show. I was like, 'FUCKING PLAY! KEEP PLAYING!'"

HAVE YOU HAD A SCARY EXPERIENCE ON THE ROAD?

"In 2001 we were opening for blink-182, and 9/11 happened. Our bus driver was an ex-military guy, and he was like, 'We need to go get guns!' and freaking out. We didn't know what to do, like, 'Is the tour getting cancelled? Are we going to war?' I remember we went to New York a few weeks after and there was so much smoke and dust still in the air – it was like a Stephen King movie."

WHERE'S THE WEIRDEST PLACE YOU'VE EVER WOKEN UP?

"I was asleep on a couch at The Morning View House where we recorded our Coming Home record, and when I opened my eyes, Scott Stapp from Creed was standing above me. I guess he was looking at recording there, but the guy that owned the house never said, 'Hey, the guy from Creed's gonna be here tomorrow to check out the house.' I said, 'Hey what's up?', and then went back to sleep."

That sounds like a horrible nightmare...

FAILURES AND F'UPS...

WHAT'S THE MOST MONEY YOU'VE EVER SPENT AND HAD NOTHING TO SHOW FOR IT?

"I would always spend a lot of money on friends. I would buy 15 movie tickets just because I would want everyone to go and I wouldn't want them to say, 'Ugh I don't have the money.' I'd go on the website and buy a whole row to, like, a Harry Potter opening night, and tell everyone, 'I got it, don't worry about.' That would be a couple of hundred bucks depending on how many people, but it was fun!"

WHAT NEW FOUND GLORY SONG WOULD YOU PUT IN THE BIN FOREVER?

"Maybe No News Is Good News. I just don't like the melody – *(sings in whiny voice) 'Can't take much more of this / We're all so wrapped up in it'*. I don't like how it holds out on 'it' and 'this'. Those aren't fun, sing-able words, it just isn't saying anything. If I could go back I would have changed it, but you pick and choose your battles."

Yeah, you pick ones that don't need time travel

LIFESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS...

WHO'S THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON YOU'VE EMBARRASSED YOURSELF IN FRONT OF?

"I gave Tom Hanks a hug. At the time when our self-titled album [2000] was out, our A&R guy lived in a rich neighbourhood in Santa Monica, and his kids carpooled with Tom Hanks' little kid, so they would have NFG playing in the car. Our A&R guy was like, 'Will you come over and teach my kids Hit Or Miss? They're gonna play it in their school talent show.' So we were sitting in a room jamming, and all of a sudden the door opened and a kid ran in, and behind him was Tom Hanks. I was so emotional that I was like, 'I gotta give you a hug!' Which is kind of embarrassing, as I wish I could have held it together better. We talked a little and played the song, and he was like, 'Alright, sounds good, see you later!'"

WHO'S THE MOST FAMOUS NEW FOUND GLORY FAN YOU KNOW?

"My wife [Hayley Williams]! Taylor Swift has watched us before, but I don't know if she listens to our music. It's hard to say who is a fan and who isn't because they're my friends... Does Hayley like all my songs? If she doesn't like something she'll say, 'I like other stuff you've done better.'"

Does she want to review the next album for us?

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

NFG DID AN ALBUM AS THE INTERNATIONAL SUPERHEROES OF HARDCORE. WHAT'S YOUR SUPER-POWER?

"I don't know what you're talking about – they died! I was Captain Straightedge, and my main thing was fighting drug addiction in people. I would fight drug dealers and stuff like that. If I could have one now? Being able to be invisible. You could use it for anything – from good stuff and bad stuff, to wanting to hide and be alone."

WOULD YOU RATHER BE TOO HOT OR TOO COLD?

"I'd rather be too cold! 'Cause I can always bundle up in the cold, and you can't really get yourself cooler if it's hot."

What – you've never put your pants in the fridge?!

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

WHAT'S SPACE MADE OF?

"Outer space? I mean you can look that up... It's not oxygen... I think a more important question is, not what is space made of? But where did it come from? And where did it come from? God."

We'll ask the questions here, pal

"I GOT ELECTROCUTED ONSTAGE!"

CHAD GILBERT

THE VERDICT — A CELEB-PACKED SHOWING. BUT WE'RE DOCKING POINTS FOR NEVER INVITING US TO THE CINEMA. SOB... **SCORE 93%**

THE LEADERBOARD

1	AL JOURGENSEN MINISTRY	100%
2	ALICE COOPER	99%
3	BEN BRUCE ASKING ALEXANDRIA	98%
4	AWSTEN KNIGHT WATERPARKS	96%
5	AHREN STRINGER THE AMITY AFFLICTION	95%
6	SYNYSTER GATES AVENGED SEVENFOLD	94%
7	GREG GRAFFIN BAD RELIGION	94%
8	GENE SIMMONS KISS	93%
9	GRIFFIN DICKINSON SHVPES	93%
10	CHAD GILBERT NEW FOUND GLORY	93%
11	DAVEY HAVOK AFI	92%
12	TUOMAS HOLOPAINEN NIGHTWISH	70%
13	CHRIS ROBERTSON BLACK STONE CHERRY	52%
14	EDDY BREWERTON MOOSE BLOOD	31%

WORDS: JENNYFER J. WALKER PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

STEEL PANTHER
THE NEW ALBUM
LOWER THE BAR
OUT 24.3.17
STEELPANTHERROCKS.COM
STEEL PANTHER
LOWER THE BAR